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Volume 63. No. 270

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2005

More Pacific troops

Servicemembers from Misawa, Yokota head for Southwest Asia

deploy to support war



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Scene on Sunday

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ws Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Missing intern: Gary Condit de nied in a sworn deposition that he had a romantic affair with slain intern Chandra Levy, insisting "we were friends," but offering few details of their relationship.

The former California congressman was questioned in September as part of an \$11 million lawsuit he filed in 2002 against Dominick Dunne, a special correspondent to Vanity Fair. Condit claims that Dunne's statements led millions of people to believe Condit was criminally involved in Levy's death

Details of the deposition were reported Tuesday on NBC's "Today Show."

When asked to describe his relationship with Levy, Condit said, "We were friends."

Levy, a 24-year-old U.S. Bureau of Prisons employee, disappeared in 2001; her remains were discovered in a Washington, D.C., park in May 2002.

South Carolina train derailment: The government told railroads on Tuesday they should require their crews to report and document changes to manual switches like the one suspected of causing the derailment of a train carrying chlorine gas.

A Norfolk Southern train slammed into another train parked on a side track in Graniteville, S.C., on Thursday, rupturing a tank and releasing a cloud of gas. The deadliest train wreck involving hazardous material in nearly three decades, it killed nine people, injured 234 others and forced the evacuation of 5.400 local residents.

Though they haven't finished their probe. National Transportation Safety Board investigators are focusing on whether the crew of the parked train failed to flip a switch to keep other trains on the main track hours before the wreck

Louisiana serial murders: Prosecutors have decided against taking twice-convicted killer Derrick Todd Lee to trial for the murder of a Lafayette woman, Trineisha Dene Colomb, 23.

Authorities say DNA evidence links Lee to the serial killings of Colomb and six other women from 1998 to 2003. In October, a iury in Baton Rouge convicted Lee of first-degree murder in the slaying of Charlotte Murray Pace and ordered the death penalty. He earlier was convicted of second-degree murder for the slaying of Geralyn DeSoto in West Baton Rouge Parish and



Fired Georgia law enforcers: Clayton County, Ga., Sheriff Victor Hill - whose firing of 27 of his 345 employees, most of them deputies and officers, on his first day in office was over turned by a judge — agreed Tuesday to reinstate their pay and benefits. But he insisted they would not necessarily get their jobs back. Hill defended his actions as legal, but refused to say exactly why the employees were fired. The firings angered members of the department and raised suspicions that they were racially motivated. Hill is black. The fired employees included four of the highest-ranking officers, all of them white.

was sentenced to life in prison.

War on terrorism

Australian terror suspect's release: The opposition Labor Party asked the government on Wednesday to explain if the release of an Australian terror suspect held for three years at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, was linked to his claims he was tortured while under U.S. supervision in Egypt.

The suspect, who the United States be lieves had foreknowledge of the Sept. 11 al-Qaida attacks, won't be allowed to leave Australia after being repatriated.

The government announced Tuesday that Sydney resident Mamdouh Habib, who was born in Egypt, will be released without charge from Guantanamo Bay.

Last week, one of Habib's court affidavits was made public in which he said that after he was arrested in Pakistan he was transferred to Egypt, where he was tortured with beatings and electric shocks and was nearly drowned

World

Afghan drug-smuggler amnesty: President Hamid Karzai said an amnesty for former drug smugglers was "not a bad idea" if it could help eliminate Afghanistan's booming narcotics industry, but he suggested Wednesday it was far from becoming government policy.

Under pressure from the United States and Europe, Karzai has called for a "holy war" against Afghanistan's drug business. the world's largest, and made it a priority for the five-year term he won in landmark September elections

Afghan poppy cultivation jumped an estimated two-thirds last year and supplied 87 percent of the world's opium, the raw material for most of the heroin sold to young addicts in areas such as Western Europe and

Pakistan assassination suspect: An air force staffer who allegedly played a key role in a plot to assassinate Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf has escaped from jail and efforts are under way to arrest him, a spokesman said Wednesday

Mushtag Ahmed, a low-ranking Pakistani air force staff member, was captured months after al-Qaida-linked Islamic militants tried to blow up Musharraf's motorcade on Dec. 14, 2003, in Rawalpindi, a city near the capital. Islamabad.

On Wednesday, air force spokesman Air Commodore Sarfraz Ahmad said the jailbreak occurred last month, but declined to give further details about it.

ries and photos from wire reports



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Misawa, Yokota troops deploy

Dozens of soldiers to support anti-terror operations in Southwest Asia

Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan -About 280 troops from Misawa and Yokota air bases left Wednesday for various locations in Southwest Asia to support operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom in the global war on terrorism, Yokota officials said.

A plane carrying almost 130 airmen from Misawa stopped at Yokota, where the base leadership joined family, friends and co-workers in saving farewell to the 150 deploying servicemembers from the 374th Airlift Wing.

It's part of a scheduled rotation within the Air Force's Aerospace Expeditionary Force cycle. Wednesday's dispatch represented roughly half of Yokota's 300-troop commitment in AEF 3 and 4 which is being carried out in waves this month. Forty personnel took off Jan. 3 for the Central Command's area of responsibility

"They're heading to locations surrounding and in Iraq and Af-ghanistan," said 1st Lt. Warren Comer, a 374th Airlift Wing spokesman. "This is the largest group we have going out there.

Personnel from several squadrons and agencies were among those leaving Wednesday, including from civil engineering, communications, mission support, wing staff, medical, logistic readiness, maintenance, aircraft mainte-nance, operational support, air postal, comptroller, weather, security forces, contracting and services units.

The Air Force's deployment lengths range from three months to four months.

"I'm proud of all the airmen at Yokota who sacrifice so much to make the world a better place said Col. Doug Kreulen, the 374th Airlift Wing commander, Wednesday's send-off "We're nroud that they're representing all



PEN COMED/Courteeu of the LLS Air Force

First Lt. Adam Coyne of the 374th Contracting Squadron at Yokota Air Base, Japan, holds his daughter, Emily, while his wife, Misa, looks on. Covne is deploying in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, About 190 airmen, 150 of whom left Wednesday, from the 374th Airlift Wing have deployed in support of the global war on terrorism this month.

of us here at Yokota, but anxious for their quick return to their families and friends."

Before departing, the Yokota contingent had a lengthy wait in Building 400, which sits next to the base's flightline. For some, the waiting merely heightened emo-

Alishea Royse, with daughters Azzy, 8, and Madalyn, 7, sitting nearby, fought tears throughout the day as her husband, Senior Airman Rob Royse of the 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron, prepared to get on the plane. He's making his third career deployment, but

"It's going to be harder for her

before, but it's the first time I'll be in any kind of danger. Normally, we're back in the States and they'll go home. This'll be the first time away from all our family

"Being away from them is going to be pretty rough, but I guess it's for the best. It's part of the job.

Senior Airman Patrick Sullivan of the 374th Maintenance Squadron was gearing up for his first deployment of any kind.

"I'm kinda nervous, leaving these two," he said, pointing to wife Cassandra and their 6-month-old daughter. Senora. "The toughest part is leaving them hehind?

nance Squadron, said being active-duty herself makes the separation a little easier

"He can talk to me in technical terms and I know what he's say-ing," she added. "But it's going to he hard mostly because [Senoral is so young and I'll be raising her by myself. She won't remember much. She'll kinda sense that he's gone but then he'll come back and everything will be OK.'

Master Sgt. Jo Bradshaw and Airman 1st Class Jennifer Cain. both supply personnel with the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron, were making their first trips down range as well. Both single, they went through Wednesday's send off without any family members.

"It's easier that way," Bradshaw said. "If I had kids and a husband ere, it would probably be much harder.

"It's my first deployment actually, but they said it'll be easier than the unit's last one. We're going to a little safer area. But the [Iraqi] election is coming up, so I don't really know what to expect

Added Cain: "Work is going to be more challenging. The election is coming up, so we'll be busier. I think I'll get more nervous the closer we get to loading the plane. Right now. I'm OK.'

Staff Sgt. Laurie Villacorta of the 374th Logistics Readiness Squad ron hugged husband Max inside Building 400's hangar as she prepared for a final goodbye.

"Usually I get to go, or we get ent at the same time," said Max Villacorta, a technical sergeant with the logistics readiness squad ron. "We're in the same AEF buck et. I just wasn't picked this time.

Laurie Villacorta said this marks the couple's third time apart because of deployments. "It'll be tough but it gets easier with each one," she said. "It's still

hard, but I guess you could say we've developed our coping skills a little better."

E-mail Vince Little at

Bowling Center contest

Yokosuka Naval Japan, is accepting submissions for its "Name Your Bowling Center" contest through Monday. Entries will be judged for uniqueness and creativity Jan. 28, with the winner to be announced Feb. 1. The winner will receive a variety of bowling specials. Call 243-4200 for more informa-

Blue Ridge gets award

The USS Blue Ridge recently was named a recipient of the Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet Retention Award for the second year in a row. Nearly 75 percent of all eligible sail ors on board re-enlisted in 2004. The Blue Ridge kept its attrition rate down to 9 percent, half of the maximum allowed for award consideration

MLK celebration

Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station, Japan, will host a cele bration to honor Martin Luther King Jr. at the chanel on Friday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. There will be guest speakers, a slide show and gosnel music.

Anti-drug musical

The Yokosuka Middle School Drama Club is to present the anti-drug musical "Forever Free" at 1:30 p.m. Feb. 3 in the YMS multipurpose room. The performance is free. Popcorn will be available for a donation to aid Asian tsunami victims.

Scholarship program

The Scholarships for Military Children program is ac-cepting applications for \$1,500 scholarships through Feb. 16, program officials said.

The program is open to unmarried children of either active-duty or retired servicemembers. Applicants must be 21 or younger or 23 or younger if currently enrolled in school. They must be planning to attend an accredited university full-time during the fall 2005 semester or be enrolled in a program designed to transfer to a four-year program. Student applicants and their parents also must be enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database and hold a current ID card.

Applications are available at www.militaryscholar.org or at base commissaries.

From staff reports

this is his first to Iraq.

he said. "She's been through this

Cassandra Sullivan also a senior

35th Fighter Wing deploys 100 airmen

By JENNIFER H SVAN Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan - Dozens of airmen from the 35th Fighter Wing are on their way to Southwest Asia to support the global war on terrorism.

The supply, civil engineering and fuels troops are deploying as part of a scheduled Air Force Aerospace Expeditionary Force rotation cycle. The current round represents

About 50 airmen left Wednesday on a DC-10 airliner from Misawa, said base spokesman 1st Lt. James Lage, noting they were the last of the AEF troops to deploy.

"The window for people leaving in AEF 3 and 4 is December 15 to January 15," he said. Lage said that tsunami-relief efforts did not

change the number of troops Misawa diverted to the war on terrorism. The 35th Fighter Wing last week sent more than 20 people to

South Asia to help rebuild countries devastated by the Dec. 26 tidal waves.

Misawa airmen will be deployed to Southwest Asia for about 120 days. That's about a month longer than typical: Deployment lengths for most airmen were increased from 90 days to 120 this summer. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper made the policy change to meet the greater demands on the service since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

E-mail Jennifer H. Svan at: svanj@pstripes.osd.mil

Air Force's only B-52 Reserve unit deploys 100 airmen to Guam

Stars and Stripes

The Air Force's only B-52 Reserve unit deployed to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, earlier this week as part of an ongoing rotation to maintain a continual bomber force in the Pacific region.

More than 100 airmen with the 917th Wing at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., began arriving on the island last weekend,

according to Andersen officials. The reservists, part of the 93rd Bomb Squadron, replaced those from the 20th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron, which deployed to Andersen in September for a 120-day rotation

Andersen spokesman Tech. Sgt. Jeff Capenos said the reservists brought more than five B-52s and are scheduled to remain on the island for a 120-day Air and Space Expeditionary Force rotation.

"Around the world, guard and reserves are being called up and used," Capenos said. "The Air Force Guard and reserves are just as much a part of the Air Force as active duty. They volunteered to do this and they're here.

While at Andersen, the 93rd Bomb Squadron's primary mission is to enhance regional security and increase training opportunities, base officials stated in a news release. The training is to integrate B-52 operations into joint and coalition forces at the U.S. Pacific Command's forward-operating bases such as Andersen, the release stated.

Bomber units from the States have maintained a continuous presence at Andersen since early 2004.

Indonesia sets deadline for troops to leave

Government also will keep tabs on foreign aid workers, journalists

BY YEOH EN-LAI The Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — The U.S. military faced tighter restrictions Wednesday as the Indonesian government sought to reassert control over foreign troops, relief workers and journalists in the tsunami-devastated region, which also has been the site of a rebel insurgency.

Indonesian Vice President Jusuf Kalla said foreign troops would be out of the country by March 31.

"A three-month period is enough, even the sooner the better," Kalla said.

The Pentagon said it is cooperating with foreign governments, but did not comment on the Indonesian deadline.

The moves by the Indonesian government, primarily aimed at U.S. troops, underscore the nationalistic country's sensitivities at having foreign military forces operating there — even in a humanitarian effort. They also come amid warnings from the Indonesian military that areas of tsunami-battered Aceh province may not be safe for aid workers

Hundreds of troops from Australia, Singapore, Germany and other nations are also helping the relief mission. The Indonesian military is providing security for all of

The aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln, which is leading the U.S. military's retile effort, steamed out of Indonessian waters Wednesday because the U.S. Nayu only has permission from the Indonessians to fly into its airspace aircraft that are credy supporting the humanitarian operation, said Li. Cmdr. John M. Daniels, psokesman for the Lincoln carrier strike Helicopters still will deliver aid to Sumatra's devastated coast, however.

Sumaira's devastated coass, nowever.

Indonesia declined to let the ship's fighter pilots use its airspace for training missions. Under U.S. Navy rules, pilots of carrier-based warplanes cannot go longer than 14 days without flying or their skills are considered to have degraded to far.

Since the Abraham Lincoln has been stationed off Sumatra since Jan. 1, the carrier moved out of Indonesian waters so its pilots could conduct their training flights in international airspace.

The Indonesian government also ordered aid workers and journalists to declare travel plans or face expulsion from Aceh as authorities moved to reassert control of the rebellion-wracked area.

The White House said Wednesday it has asked the Indonesian government to explain the restrictions on aid workers and journalists. At a Paris meeting Wednesday, a French official said the world's wealthiest nations, including the United States, believe a temporary suspension of billions of dollars in debt repayments by tsunami-devastated countries will provide a necessary "breath of oxygen" for recovery and reconstruction from the disaster that killed more than 150,000 eeoole across southern Asia.

Security concerns threaten to hamper efforts to deliver aid to Acel province on the northern tip of Sumatra island, where more than 100,000 people were killed and tens of thousands left homeless or in need. The United Nations has been running the relief effort, appealing to donors attending a conference in Geneva to honor the unprecedented 34 billion in pleages to help

Stars and Stripes reporter Leo Shane in Washington contributed to this report.

Despite claims, Washington state finds no overseas ballot problems

BY LEO SHANE III

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Washington state election officers and military officials say they have found no evidence of problems with overseas military absentee ballots, despite allegations that many may not have been delivered or counted.

"We're seeing allegations made that large numbers of military voters dd not get ballots, but we think that's partisan rhetoric over a close election," said Pam Floyd, assistant elections director for the state. "And we believe all military ballots signed by Washington voters and received were counted."

But state Republicans believe that hundreds of overseas servicemembers never received their ballots, and that may have stolen the election from their gubernatorial candidate, Dino Rossi.

"We're getting tons of calls and e-mails from troops overseas who didn't receive their ballots, or who got them weeks after the election," said Mary Lane, spokeswoman for Rossi. "We're looking at a lot of disenfranchised military voters."

Lane provided Stars and Stripes with complaints from 14 family members who have loved ones in the military, most deployed overseas, who did not receive absentee ballots. The Rossi campaign said it has heard from 260 voters who claim not to have received ballots, though not all of them are military.

Department of Justice officials would not comment on news reports that the federal government is investigating whether state elections officials broke the law by sending out the ballots too late. Republicans have filed suit to mandate a new election because of the military issues and other supposed voting irregularities.

In November, Rossi was named the winner of the general election by 261 votes and won a machine recount by 42, but a second, manual recount and machine remains of the property of the second that the second by 42 but a second, manual recount last month showed Democrat Christine Gregoire with a 129-vote margin of victory.

Last month, Secretary of State Sam Reed, a Republican, certified the election results in Gregoire's favor, and on Tuesday the state House and Senate, both controlled by Democrats, followed suit. The Democrat was sworn in as governor on Wednesday.

Washington was the last state to send out its overseas ballots, with all but one county mailing them by Oct. 8, Floyd said. That left 39 days for overseas military personnel to receive and return the votes, which were accepted until 14 days after the November elec-

Joe Hitt, spokesman for Fort Lewis in Washington, said none of the Army Reserve units currently deployed overseas have reported problems over missing or damaged ballots.

"It just seems to be something that's being blown up in the press," he said. "We haven't heard any complaints about ballots."

But Lane said her office has heard numerous complaints, even from troops who double-checked their registration and mailing addresses to make sure they received ballots.

Department of Defense officials did not return calls seeking comment on the ballot controversy. Arguments in the GOP court challenge will begin Friday.



TOUR RAWABE/Courtesy of the U.S. Nav

Yokosuka city police Chief Tamio Takahashi, right, presents a letter of appreciation Wednesday to Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, commander Capt. King Dietrich, who will be departing later in the month.

Yokosuka commander honored by local police

BY ERIK SLAVIN Stars and Stripes

Yokosuka Naval Base's top official received praise this week for his efforts to promote stronger ties between base and local po-

Yokosuka city Police Chief Tamio Takahashi thanked Capt. King Dietrich in a letter of appreciation for having "greatly contributed to developing cooperation and friendships with Yokosuka Police Station."

Dietrich, whose tour as Yokosuka's commander ends Jan. 28, made great strides in preventing crimes and traffic accidents by servicemembers since arriving in July 2003, Takahashi said.

"He was a well-liked commander who gave support in public safety and has had good interaction with the Yokosuka residents on a regular basis," Takahashi

In November, Dietrich participated personally in a monthly night patrol of the "Honch" area just outside the base, Takahashi said. Base police also conducted a joint road-safety campaign in December and added DUI check-

Dietrich's efforts helped cut

the crime rate 40 percent over the past two years, according to a base spokesman. The added cooperation made it easier to reach an understanding with local police and have base citizens returned quickly, Dietrich said.

"It is less of a burden on the city and also allows us to bring SOFA members back under our control," Dietrich said.

However, cooperation swings both ways. Japanese police have been given leeway to extensively investigate base residents, within the bounds of the status of forces agreement.

"We opened the books to them as much as we possibly can under the law to be able to help them do their jobs," Dietrich said.

Yokosuka police officials brought up the idea of commending Dietrich after both officials and residents said he should be honored, Takahashi said.

"In presenting a letter of appreciation to Captain Dietrich, I hope that the relationship between Japan and the United States becomes closer and both countries keep cooperating with each other in the future," Takahashi said.

Hana Kusumoto contributed to this report.

E-mail Erik Slavin at: slavine@pstripes.osd.mil

Report: Navy sub hit 'incredibly hard'

Stars ana Stripe

According to a report in Wednesday's New York Times, the nuclear submarine that ran aground Saturday in the South Pacific hit so "incredibly hard" that about 60 of 137 crewmembers were injured, and the sailor who died was thrown 20 feet, according to internal Navy e-mail messages sent by a top admiral.

The messages said the submarine's hull was severely damaged after the head-on crash into what Navy officials believe was an undersea mountain that was not on the navigation charts.

The messages were written by Rear Adm. Paul F. Sullivan, the commander of submarines in the Pacific, the Times wrote. Sullivan, based in Hawaii. sent

Sullivan, based in Hawaii, sent the e-mail messages to other Navy officials. As the messages circulated within the submarine community, two people provided copies to The New York Times, and Navy officials confirmed their authentici-

The e-mail also indicated that about 60 crewmembers had been injured. All the Navy had said publicly was that 23 crewmembers were treated for broken bones, cuts and bruises.

The messages said those 23 were hurt seriously enough that they were unable to stand their watch duties as the submarine limbed back to Guam.

Dan Ashley, father of Machinist's Mate Zhot Class Joseph Allen Ashley of Akron, Ohio, the only sailor who died in the incident, said the submarine's captain, Cmdr. Kevin Mooney, told him by phone on Monday that among the injured crewmembers, "there were a lot of broken fingers, broken arms and legs and one fractured back."

An e-mail also said an outer hull ripped open at the submarine nose and flooded it, which caused the submarine to sit deeper in the water and made it hard to maneuver on the trip back to Guam. Sail ors had to keep pumping pressurized air into the tanks to maintain

Planting the seeds of freedom

Army captain's idea to benefit Afghan schoolchildren blossoming into charity

Stars and Strines

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan - A minister's sermon, a dinner chat with mom and a series of thank-you notes have helped launch a humanitarian effort that stretches from the mud hovels of Afghanistan to the high-rises of America

It is the effort of a U.S. Army captain who took a seed of an idea to assist Afghan schoolchildren and nurtured it into a full-fledged

nongovernmental organization. In characteristic fashion, Capt. Todd Schmidt modestly attributes the growth of Operation Dreamseed Inc. to "the heartland heroes" back home. They range from a large New York City law firm and a Chicago philanthropist, to a Houston middle school and a Beverly Hills investment-consulting firm.

Another backer is Abdul Aziz, who emigrated from Afghanistan to the United States in 1980, starting his new life as a dish

"I couldn't believe it." Aziz said of Schmidt's efforts. Aziz, a civil engineer, spoke by telephone from his home in Corona, Calif. "He's a wonderful person. I hope he succeeds, and I'll help him as much as I

That help doesn't involve just the folks back home

Dozens of soldiers assisted Schmidt with Dreamseed's first large-scale effort last month. The "I Choose Freedom" speech con-test drew 2,500 Afghan students and thousands of parents. By day's end, each child re-

plies from donors in the United States.
"We had a soccer field filled with kids." Schmidt said of the event. "That was some-

The idea for Dreamseed began in February, when Schmidt returned to his boyhood home in Greenwood Ind.

family before his deployment to Afghani-stan. One night, while seated at his parents dinner table, his mother, Wendy, asked him to look for ways she and her pupils at Maple Grove Elementary School could make a dif-

ference for Afghan children When he and other members of the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii headed to Afghanistan in the spring, Schmidt began to survey the conditions of local schools in the Kandahar area "You can walk into just about any class-

room and see that they don't have chalk-boards," Schmidt said. "They don't have desks or chairs. Most classrooms have dirt floors, and there are no window panes and no doors." At about the same time. Schmidt and the ther soldiers of his unit, Battery A, 1st Bat-

talion, 62nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, began receiving care packages from anonymous people in the United States. The goodie boxes consisted of the normal fare, such as candy and hygiene items. Schmidt had one request of his soldiers: When you re-ceive a care package, reply with a short thank-you note

"He means the best in everything he

does," said Spc. Christopher Cipponeri, a 21-year-old assigned to the battery That simple gesture made a huge impres-

"When we sent those thank-you notes Schmidt said, "everything kind of blos-somed out of it."

The notes generated return letters many asking the troops what else they might need "We have everything you need, really, when you think about it," the 32-year-old captain said, referring to the amenities on

Schmidt began thinking of the Afghan children. His thoughts and observations were passed along in letters. That was all it took to set in motion Dreamseed, a term he borrowed from a minister back home.

One of the care packages his unit received was from Connie Fratainni, a partner in the New York law firm Shearman & Sterling Letters evolved into e-mails and then to phone calls. Eventually, Fratainni and another partner, Saralynn Cohen, offered to provide pro bono work to incorporate Dreamseed and to help it apply for tax-exempt status as a nonprofit organization.

Dreamseed was formally incorporated on

Nov. 12. By that time, donors large and small had stepped forward. The mission, Schmidt said, involves three phases. The first is to provide schoolchildren in southern Afghanistan with basic

Next is the renovation of schools. In a land where only 5 million of the nation's 28 million people can read, Schmidt noted that them. In some cases, they use rocks to scrawl lesson plans on the walls of their mud-brick classrooms.

"These kids have nothing," said Cipponeri, who has played a major role in helping Schmidt, "All these children have smiles on their faces and wear rags for clothes. When you help them, it opens a new part of you in

What's important to Joy Schmidt is her husband's safe return. On the organization's Web site, she wrote a congratulatory note, but implored him "to stay focused" on his primary responsibility — being a soldier. primary responsibility — being a soldier. Schmidt smiled as he recounted those

One concern that seems to have dissinated is who will carry on his work in Afghani-

Aziz plans to return to assist the Afghan government, and cash donations to Dreamseed should allow Schmidt to hire two full-time employees. In addition, an officer with the 173rd Airborne Brigade from Vicenza, Italy, the unit that will replace the 25th ID in the spring, has pledged to keep the ini-

tiative going.

The good will of so many people back home "is humbling," Schmidt said. "There are so many great people across America

"If you have a generation of kids that real-ize the importance of education, to me, that's an investment in the future," Schmidt added, "We Americans need to foster those seeds of hope.

E-mail Kevin Dougherty at: doughertyk@mail.estripes.osd.mil

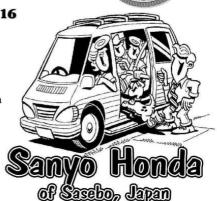
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Fruitless WMD search comes to an end

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WASHINGTON - The search for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq has quietly concluded without any evidence of the banned weapons that President Bush cited as justification for going to war, the White

House said Wednesday The Iraq Survey Group, made up of some 1.200 military and intelligence specialists and support staff, spent nearly two years searching military installations, factories and laboratories whose equipment and products might be converted quickly

to making weapons. White House press secretary Scott Mc-Clellan said there no longer is an active

Iraq Survey Group inspectors return home after two-year hunt

search for weapons. "There may be a couple, a few people, that are focused on that"

but that it has largely concluded, he said. "If they have any reports of [weapons of mass destruction], obviously they'll continue to follow up on those reports," McClellan said. "A lot of their mission is focused

elsewhere now. Chief U.S. weapons hunter Charles Duelfer is to deliver his final report on the

search next month. "It's not going to fundamentally alter the findings of his earlier report." McClellan

said, referring to preliminary findings from last September. Duelfer reported then that Saddam Hussein not only had no weapons of mass destruction and had not made any since 1991, but that he had no capability of making any either. Bush unapol-

ogetically defended his decision to invade Duelfer is expected to report on the removal of enriched uranium, a key ingredient in nuclear weapons production, and that the United States was offering jobs to Iragis engaged in weapons programs, another administration official said on condition of anonymity. Bush has appointed a panel to investi-

gate why the intelligence about Iraq's weapons was wrong.

The Washington Post reported that Duelfer is home, and analysts are back at Lan-

gley, Va.

In interviews, officials who served with the Iraq Survey Group said the violence in Iraq, coupled with a lack of new information, led them to fold up the effort shortly before Christmas.

Witness says Graner often disobeyed orders

BY T.A. BADGER The Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas - The first witness for Army Spc. Charles Graner Jr., the alleged ringleader in the Abu Ghraib prison abuse case, said under cross examination Thursday that Graner routinely disobeyed orders while serving as a guard

The testimony from Master Sgt. Brian Lipinski could undermine Graner's contention that he was just following orders to soften up Iraqi inmates for interrogation

A civilian intelligence officer. also called by the defense, later said physical and psychological techniques were used to make detainees more cooperative, but he thought Graner and other Abu Ghraib guards were acting on their own.

"They assumed all Iraqis were terrorists and needed discipline," said Roger Brokaw, a former soldier. "It had nothing to do with the interrogation pro-

Lipinski, then the top noncom-missioned officer in the 372nd Military Police Company, said Graner wore his hair too long, altered his uniform in violation of regulations and refused to stay



Holley asked Lipinski "That's true, sir," Lipinski

"He wants to do his own thing?" Holley said.

Michael

"Yes, sir." the sergeant said. England, who is awaiting trial on Abu Ghraib abuse charg gave birth in October to a child who Army prosecutors say was

fathered by Graner. Graner, a 36-year-old reservist from Uniontown, Pa., is the first soldier to stand trial in the scandal. He is charged with offenses including conspiracy, assault and committing indecent acts and could get 171/2 years in a military prison.

Bush: No women in com

President Bush made clear his position on women in ground combat Tuesday: No women in combat.

Despite extended tours of du-

ties in Iraq for soldiers and an Army examination of women's roles, the president told editors and reporters of The Washington Times in an Oval Office interview that he has no intention of sending women into ground combat, a mission for which they are banned under Pentagon policy.

'There's no change of policy as far as I'm concerned," Bush told the Times. "No women in complain, we've got to make sure we define combat properly: We've got women flying choppers and women flying fighters, which I'm perfectly content with.

The question came up in light of the Army's transforming its 10 active-combat divisions and re-examining women's roles. Instead of the normal three brigades per division, each division will have four or more "units of action." They are being designed to train and de ploy as one modular unit, with combat and support units as one.

Therein lies the potential prob-

lem, the Times wrote, Pentago policy not only bans women from direct combat brigades, such as infantry or armor, it also says they cannot join support units that collocate with those units.

Congress requires that any change in women-in-combat rules first be presented to lawmakers

In 1994, after reports of women excelling during Operation Desert Storm, the Clinton administration lifted bans on women in combat aircraft and ships. But it retained the prohibition against women in ground combat units and collocation, the Times reported.



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U.S., Russia near arms trafficking deal

BY ROBERT BURNS The Associated Pres-

WASHINGTON - The United States and Russia are close to completing an agreement designed to limit trafficking in portable air-defense missiles, which some security experts fear terrorists could use against commercial airliners, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov said Tuesdav.

At a joint news conference with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, Ivanov provided few details but said the proposed accord reflected a common interest between the United States and Russia in constraining the unauthorized movement of these weapons around the world.

"You know full well that terrorists of all hues and stripes" have sought to obtain them, he said.

Ivanov, speaking through an interpreter, said "an agreement on the exchange of information" on portable air-defense weapons would be signed by the two countries "pretty soon.

He said the agreement was put together quickly "because it was in the best interests of both states to maximally constrain" the movement of such weapons, such as the American-made Stinger shoulder-fired missiles the CIA supplied to Afghan rebels fighting Soviet forces in the 1980s.



U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld listens to Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov during a news conference Tuesday at the Pentagon in Washington.

said "negligible amounts" of Russian-made air defense weapons also were in Afghanistan, and they are included in the inventories of many central and eastern European countries.

Rumsfeld did not comment on the deal and other U.S. officials did not immediately have any information

Later, after a meeting with President Bush at the White House. Ivanov told reporters he

and Rumsfeld had briefly filled the president in on the "understanding between the governments of the two countries to control the movements" of such

Typically, these relatively cheap weapons are small, rocket-propelled warheads with heat-seeking sensors. They are designed to be triggered from a tube-like, disposable launcher and to follow the heat of a jet engine's exhaust to its source. The CIA-backed rebels in Afghanistan used Stingers to great effect against Russian helicopters and other low-flying aircraft during

Ivanov also said he had accepted a U.S. invitation for Russian forces to participate in a U.S.-based military exercise to "handle nuclear safety issues while transporting nuclear munitions." He did not elaborate.

Afghan vote a model

KABUL, Afghanistan U.S. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist said Wednesday he hoped Iraq's election would mirror the recent vote in Afghanistan in helping to "squelch" militants and "squelch" militants and smooth the road to democracy. After talks with Afghan President Hamid Karzai, Frist, R-Tenn., said "nobody can an-ticipate" what will happen when Iraqis vote in elections set for Jan 30

"Our hope is that we will see something very similar ... [which will] squelch, or overcome and overpower insurgencies, challenges to democracy, in a way that will far surpass people's anticipations." Frist

Stem cell green light

SEOUL - A South Korean team of scientists who pro-duced the first cloned human embryo last year were given government approval Wednes-day to proceed with stem-cell research to find cures for diabetes, cerebral palsy and Parkinson's and other diseases - but not for work toward human cloning.

The scientists, led by Profes-sor Hwang Woo-Seok of Seoul National University, must fol-low detailed guidelines set by the Ministry of Health and Welfare in December, one of which allows experimentation with unused eggs at fertility clinics.



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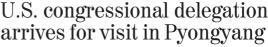
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SEOUL - A group of U.S. congressmen met with North Korea's foreign minister in Pyongyang on Wednesday, the communist state's official news agency said, amid efforts to persuade the North to rejoin talks on its nuclear weapons ambitions.

A bipartisan delegation led by Republican Rep. Curt Weldon of Pennsylvania arrived in Pyongyang on Tuesday for a four-day visit as part of efforts to keep dialogue open between the United States and North Korea, especially over the North's nuclear

The delegation met Foreign Minister Paek Nam Sun on Wednesday, the official Korean Central News Agency said.

The six U.S. lawmakers also met Gen. Ri Chan Bok, the North Korean military's chief representative overseeing the 1950 armistice that ended the three-year Korean War between communist forces and American-led U.N. troops, KCNA said.

They also visited an art studio in Pyongyang, it

KCNA did not give further details.

From Pyongyang, the U.S. delegation is to travel to Russia, South Korea, China and Japan — the four other countries involved in six-nation negotiations aimed at ending North Korea's nuclear weapons pro-

The six nations are struggling to arrange a new round of talks after the North refused to attend talks scheduled for last September. The three previous rounds produced no breakthroughs. Weldon led a group of lawmakers to North Korea

in May 2003, after Washington accused the North of running a clandestine nuclear program in 2002

The latest visit followed a similar one by Rep. Tom Lantos, the top Democrat on the U.S. House International Relations Committee, who led a delegation to North Korea last week.

N. Korean refugee news conference broken up

BEIJING - A group of unidentified men broke up a news conference Wednesday by four South Korean lawmakers about the diplomatically volatile issue of North Korean refugees, forcing reporters out of a Beijing hotel conference hall and barring access to the

A South Korean government spokesman expressed regret over the incident and said Seoul would take unspecified "necessary measures" in response.

About a dozen men, apparently

security turned off the lights in the windowless room minutes after the news conference began at the Beijing Great Wall Sheraton Hotel

Shouting "Leave!", they shoved some reporters out of the room and prevented them from returning An Associated Press photographer was hit on the side of the head during the scuffle.

Ten journalists remained with the South Koreans in the dark for almost two hours, but were pre vented from talking to them.

According to a South Korean offi

cial, who spoke on condition of ano nymity, the men who broke up the news conference said it was illegal but wouldn't give any explanation.

"We want to see the relevant law." said Kim Moon-soo, a delegation leader. "If you show us the law that prohibits us from holding a meeting today, then we will abide by the law."

The South Korean delegates later issued a statement appealing to the Chinese government to allow North Koreans hiding in China to leave the country and to release a jailed South Korean activist



Japan

S.Korea

4 more bodies found after Calif. mudslide

BY GREG RISLING

The Associated Press

LA CONCHITA, Calif. - Ressearching with shovels, their bare hands and tiny video cameras dropped into holes found the bodies of a woman and three of her children before dawn Wednesday, bringing the death toll from a mudslide in this seaside hamlet to 10, officials said.

Ventura County Fire Capt. Danny Rodriguez said the bodies were found as crews worked around the clock for a second straight night, swarming over the debris pile under a clear sky and powerful lights

The four dead were the wife and three daughters of La Conchita resident Jimmie Wallet, Ventura County sheriff's chaplain Ron Matthews told The Associated Press.

The storms also were blamed

Death toll now stands at 10 in seaside town

for flooding that destroyed houses in Arizona and Utah.

Twelve people were still listed missing after Monday's 30-foot-deep mudslide, which was triggered by five days of nearly nonstop rain. But officials said that number was expected to be reduced to eight to reflect the discovery of the mother and children. With the 10 known dead at La Conchita, the storm's toll in California since Friday rose to 25.

Wallet had been among the most visible of the town's residents since the slide as he frantically searched alongside firefightfor his 37-year-old wife, Mechelle, and daughters Hannah, 10, Rayen, 6, and Paloma, 2

After the bodies were found, friends took him out of town with his 16-year-old daughter. Wallet was out getting ice cream when the slide hit, while his teen daughter was in Ventura.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger toured the town by helicopter on Wednesday morning and planned to meet with residents and report-

The days of torrential rain also triggered fatal traffic accidents all across the state, knocked out power to hundreds of thousands, imperiled hillside homes and caused flash floods. The searchers were using dogs trained to search for live victims and others that can locate cadavers.

Rescuers got a break Tuesday when the rain finally stopped. National Weather Service fore caster Stuart Seto said clear weather was expected to continue through at least the weekend.

Emergency workers search through debris for survivors trapped inside collapsed houses after a mudslide Monday in La Conchita, Calif.

More word of lasers hitting airplanes

BY LESLIE MILLER The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - At least a dozen cases of lasers being beamed into aircraft cockpits since Christmas are being investi-gated by the FBI. The lasers can temporarily blind pilots

A cluster of incidents received wide attention between Christ-mas and New Year's Day, and the FBI says at least four more have occurred in the past week.

Authorities have continued to rule out terrorism.

Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta was briefing reporters Wednesday about the issue at the Federal Aviation Administration's aeronautical research center in Oklahoma City.

Mineta was expected to announce new measures for alerting pilots and preparing them to react when lasers are shined at their aircraft. He was also expected to outline ways to notify law en-forcement investigators more quickly.

Last week, a pilot told law enforcement officials that a green light appeared on the nose of his aircraft as it was taking off from

the Burbank, Calif., airport. "To our knowledge there was no danger to the aircraft," said Cathy Viray, spokeswoman for the FBI in Los Angeles. Last weekend, two pilots near

Washington Dulles International Airport reported lasers beamed at them, according to FBI spokeswoman Debra Weierman

The first incident occurred Saturday and involved a helicopter from the Fairfax County (Va.) Police Department; the other happened Sunday to a US Airways Express flight

Weierman said the bureau was investigating



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NASA spacecraft out to smash comet

By MARCIA DUNN The Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — A NASA spacecraft with a Hollywood name — Deep Impact — blasted off Wednesday on a mission to smash a hole in a comet and give scientists a glimpse of the frozen pri-

mordial ingredients of the solar system. With a launch window only one second long, Deep Impact rocketed away at the designated moment on a six-month, 268 million-mile journey to Comet Tempel 1. It will be a one-way trip that NASA hopes will reach a cataclysmic end on the Fourth of July

"We are on our way," said an excited Michael A'-Hearn of the University of Maryland, the mission's chief scientist. Minutes later, the spacecraft shot out of Earth's orbit and onto its collision course

"We'll be there July Fourth," NASA launch director Omar Baez said.

Scientists are counting on Deep Impact to carve out a crater in Comet Tempel 1 that could swallow

sives are needed for the job. The force of the smash up will be equivalent to 4 ½ tons of TNT, creating a naked eye in one spectacular Fourth of July fireworks display.

Nothing like this has ever been attempted before. Little is known about Comet Tempel 1, other than that it is an icy, rocky body about nine miles long

and three miles wide Scientists do not even know whether the crust will

be as hard as concrete or as flimsy as corn flakes "One of the scary things is that we won't actually know the shape and what it looks like until after we do the encounter," said Jay Melosh, a planetary geologist at the University of Arizona.

The comet will be more than 80 million miles from Earth when the collision takes place — on the sunlit side of the comet, NASA hopes, in order to ensure good viewing by spacecraft cameras and observatories. The resulting crater is expected to be two to 14 stories deep, and perhaps 300 feet in diameter.





PHILADELPHIA, Miss. Edgar Ray Killen, the reputed Klansman charged with the 1964 murders of three civil rights workers in rural Missis sippi, was ordered held Wednesday on \$250,000 bond

Bond in KKK case

as he awaits a March 28 trial. Circuit Judge Marcus Gor-don also ordered that if Killen is able to post the bond, he must report to the sheriff each

week on his whereabouts.
Killen, a 78-year-old
part-time preacher, stood in an orange jail jumpsuit and nod-ded when the judge asked him if he could hear.

The lifelong resident of this Mississippi town had said after his arraignment last week that he was unable to afford an attorney despite owning 20 acres of land, a small sawmill and vehicles

Tenn. garage killings

JACKSON, Tenn. — A man was being held Wednesday after a bloody rampage at a state maintenance garage. The man's estranged wife and two others were killed, and two others were wounded.

Homicide and attempted homicide charges were expected to be filed against David Jor-

dan, 40, police said. According to police, Jordan - armed with an assault rifle, a 12-gauge pump shotgun, a 9 mm semiautomatic pistol and a .45-caliber semiautomatic pistol - walked into the Department of Transportation ga-rage Tuesday and opened fire on his wife, department employee Donna Renee Jordan, 31. She died at the scene.

E-mail porn ads nixed

WASHINGTON — Claiming a victory against X-rated spam, the Federal Trade Commission won an order to shut down illegal Internet advertising for six companies accused of profiting from sexually explicit e-mail.

U.S. District Court Chief Judge Philip M. Pro in Las Vegas on Tuesday granted the commission's request for preliminary injunctions against the companies, their executives and an affiliate, which would last the length of the FTC's civil suit against them. The FTC says the defendants violated federal laws regulating com-mercial electronic mail, commonly known as spam.

Dean out to lead DNC

WASHINGTON - Former residential candidate Howard Dean has decided to

seek the party's chairmanship. Dean's entry into the race ap-pears to pre-empt another bid for the presidency in 2008. The chairman's job carries a four-year term and Dean has said that anyone who serves as chairman should be ruled out

chairman should be ruled out as a presidential candidate. Dean joins a field that in-cludes former Indiana Rep. Tim Roemer, former Texas Rep. Martin Frost, Democrat-ic activists Simon Rosenberg and Donnie Fowler, former Denver Mayor Wellington Webb and former Ohio Democratic Party chairman David

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Food Guide Pyramid



Shown is the USDA's original food pyramid, created 12 years ago. Revised dietary guidelines issued Wednesday emphasize eating whole

New diet guidelines stress grains, fruits

BY LIBBY OUAID The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The government on Wednesday urged most Americans to eat fewer calories and exercise 30 to 90 minutes a day, updating guidelines that ad-vised people to lose weight but gave few specifics on how to do it. The new dietary guidelines will

be used to update the familiar food pyramid, which most people recog-nize but few heed. The revision will be the pyramid's first since it was created 12 years ago.

Federal officials acknowledged that much of the advice will not be new to Americans, who spent millions on diet books trying to lose

The guidelines, developed by HHS and the Agriculture Depart ment, strengthen the govern-ment's advice on whole grains, telling people to choose whole grains such as whole wheat bread instead of refined ones like white bread or

People should also eat a lot more vegetables and fruit, particu-

rather than juices, the guidelines said. And they recommend three one-ounce servings of whole grains each day, such as certain unsweetened breakfast cereals, to reduce the risk of heart disease

and help maintain weight The guidelines were based on recommendations of a 13-member panel of scientists and doctors. The committee said people lead sedentary lifestyles and choose their food poorly, leading many to exceed the calories they need even as they fail to get enough nu-

Controlling calories — not limit-ing carbohydrates, as some popular diets recommend — is key to controlling weight, the panel said.

Also key is daily exercise. The panel recommended a minimum of at least 30 minutes of moderate exercise — brisk walking or gar-

dening — on most days.

But it said many adults need to exercise for 60 minutes or more to prevent weight gain, and people who have lost weight may need to exercise for 60 to 90 minutes to keep it off.

Justices finds fault with federal sentencing rules

BY GINA HOLLAND The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that federal judges have been im properly adding time to criminals' sentences, a decision that puts in doubt longtime sentencing rules.

The court, on a 5-4 vote, said that its ruling last June that juries not judges — should consider factors that can add years to defendants' prison sentences applies as well to the 17-year-old federal guideline system.

The justices refused to back-track from a 5-4 decision that struck down a state sentencing system because it gave judges too much leeway in sentencing. But the high court stopped short of striking down the federal system.

Justice Stephen Breyer said the federal sentencing system is at least in part invalid because it forces judges to use the guidelines But he said that the system could be salvaged, if judges use it on an advisory basis

About 64,000 people are sen-tenced in federal courts each year, under a system that had been challenged as unconstitutional in a pair of cases at the Supreme Court.

The federal guidelines are intended to make sure sentences do not vary widely from courtmom-to-courtroom.

While juries consider guilt or innocence, judges make factual decisions that affect prison time, such as the amount of drugs involved in a crime, the number of victims in a fraud or whether a defendant committed perjury during trial.

New Apple products going smaller, more affordable

BY MAY WONG The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO - Seeking make inroads against lower-cost competitors, Computer Inc. introd Apple cut-rate computer the size of a paperback and a tiny iPod that starts at \$99 but holds far fewer songs than the company's hard drive-based music players.

The new products were intro duced Tuesday by Apple CEO Steve Jobs at Macworld Expo.

The Mac mini computers go on sale Jan. 22 and represent Apple's first foray into the budget desktop PC arena, which has been largely confined to personal computers that rely on Microsoft Corp.'s Windows operating system.

Smaller than even some standalone external computer drives, they lack a monitor, mouse and keyboard. The 40-gigabyte Mac mini will cost \$499, an 80-gigabyte model \$599.

They'll ship with Apple's latest operating system, Mac OS X Panther, as well as the newest version of its iLife suite of digital media software programs, also unveiled Tuesday

"People who are thinking of switching will have no more excuses," Jobs said. "It's the newest and most affordable Mac ever.'

Apple has just a 3 percent share of the U.S. computer mar ket, and company executives say they're aiming with the Mac mini to woo PC users who may have felt Apple products were too high-priced

The iPod shuffle, on the other hand, seeks to build on Apple's heady success in the portable music business while appealing to people seeking flash memo ry-based players, which are more durable and lightweight than those using hard drives for storage — and thus better suited as

exercise partners.

The shuffle is smaller than most packs of chewing gum, weighs less than an ounce and is a third of an inch thick.

Unlike its larger cousin, the iPod mini, the shuffle lacks a display. There's a scroll wheel for the controls so stored songs can either be played sequentially or automatically shuffled in random

Apple is selling two versions of the iPod shuffle.

Apple is releasing a new, smaller \$99 version of its popular iPod, as well as a mini computer selling for as low as \$499.

The smallest-capacity model will have 512 megabytes of storage, which holds up to 120 songs, and costs \$99. A one-gigabyte version, which holds up to 240 songs, will sell for \$149.

Until Tuesday, the lowest cost iPod was the mini, which costs \$249 for four gigabytes - enough to store about 1,000 songs.



In Hollywood...

breaking language barriers brings in big bucks

BY MARY MCNAMARA

Los Angeles Times

HOLLYWOOD - At first, Chuck Mitchell did not think it was such a great idea to insert a slaughterhouse joke in the middle of "Shrek."

"I said, wait a minute, I don't think so. I mean, it's one thing to have Shrek say he's going to kick Donkey's butt: it's another to have him dragging him off to the meat

But then Mitchell isn't Polish. Apparently, in Poland, there is a very funny folk tale involving a donkey and a slaughterhouse. And according to the translator working on the Polish version of the wildly successful DreamWorks film, they would be fools not to reference it. So Mitchell said go with the slaughterhouse.

"We had a great translator," he says with a shrug. "I trusted him. There were lots of things that had to be changed because a lot of the fairy tales they use in 'Shrek' are not known in Poland. So we used dialogue to add some Polish fairy

Mitchell is president of Voices in the Arts, an audio production company that does, among other things, foreign dubbing for theatrical and nontheatrical film projects. As foreign sales have become increasingly important to the entertainment industry - making up, in some cases, 50 percent of revenue — the "foreign post-production," or dubbing, industry has grown in scope and expertise. Where once it consisted of voice-over translation, literal often not particularly well-synchronized, now entire casts and crews are assembled to re-create the dialogue in a way that captures not only the spirit of the original movie but also provides local nuance to make it play better in the various foreign territories.

Throughout Western Europe, English-speaking film and television has been regularly dubbed for years. In France, Italy, Germany and Spain (the FIGS, as they are called in the industry), there is



a free-standing dubbing industry with studios and talent that can have lucrative careers in dubbing alone. But as Hollywood has ventured into Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa, dubbing is overseen by the American studios that will hire local actors and directors but, when the budget allows, also provide a production supervisor such as Mitchell to be on set

Mitchell signs off on everything - from the script to the performances, where cultural translation is as important as linguistics.

For "Shrek," Mitchell oversaw the Polish, Catalan and Castilian versions; for "Titan A.E.," he worked in Hong Kong, Korea Spain, Iceland and Greece; and for "Star Wars: The Phantom Menace," he supervised the dubbing in Hong Kong and Russia

"Chuck is part of a very select group who not only understand the creative process but also know how to do all the audio post-production," says Debra Chinn, executive director of international theatrical dubbing for Fox Film Corp., who has worked with Mitchell many times over the years. "Because it's not a question of understanding the language so much as it is under standing the original project.'

"In a way, I am a professional

American," Mitchell says. "A lot of the [foreign] directors may or may not have worked in the U.S., so they may or may not get some of the references or nuance. Sometimes I have to explain that this is supposed to be funny, or this isn't."

Mitchell, who got into theatrical dubbing by way of music produc-tion and interactive dubbing, is one of a handful of independent dubbing supervisors living in the United States. Occasionally, he works in the FIGS. But much of his work has been in the newer territories. Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa still tend toward subtitles, but that is changing, especially for those films aimed at a family audi-

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Dynamic stability control helps keep cars from losing control

My husband and I recently moved from Connecticut to Colorado, and are considering buying a new

We have a 2000 BMW 528i, which I have loved, but because we are now in a place with a lot more snow and in a county with a lot of dirt and gravel roads, it doesn't really fit our needs anymore. Neither of us wants a sport utility vehicle, but we have been considering the Subaru Outback Wagon, My

question: The vehicle dynamics control is only available on the most expensive model. Is that system worth the extra cost?

Click and Clack

My husband is suspicious of any system that claims to take over for the driver probably because when he was younger, he raced cars, and he likes to feel as if he always has control - but I will be the main driver of the car, and I'm a normal driver. Is it worth it? Thanks so much. -

TOM: The short answer is yes. It IS worth it. More and more studies are showing that dynamic stability control (often referred to by a confusing array of acronyms like VDC, DSC, ESP, MSPCA, etc.) does do a lot to help people avoid accidents.

RAY: Dynamic stability control is one of the new est electronic forms of skid control. These systems work by using sensors to detect signs of a skid, and then limiting acceleration and applying the brakes on individual wheels to regain control of the car.

TOM: Why do you want to prevent a skid? Well once you're skidding - once the tires are no longer in full contact with the road - it's very hard to control the car. You're much more likely to plow into something, be it another car, a tree or a mango-smoothie stand by the side of the road

RAY: These days, the three major anti-skid systems are: ABS, or antilock-brake systems, which help you avoid skidding when you're making an

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emergency stop; TCS, or traction control. which helps you avoid skids while you accelerate; and DSC (or whatever each manufacturer happens to call its version of dynamic stability control), which helps you avoid skids while you're moving and turning. DSC helps prevent you from losing control of the car when you take a corner too fast or swerve to avoid

something. And it works. TOM: So, if it's available - and sadly, Subaru

only makes it available on the top-of-the-line Outback - we'd recommend it.

RAY: Your husband — like most guys who take his position - is wrong. Sure, we all want to be "in control." But the fact is

that microcomputers can handle certain tasks better than even the most skilled driver ever could. The computer that controls these systems can pulse an individual wheel's brake 10 or 15 times per second. A human driver could never do that,

TOM: Of course, most cars with stability control have a switch that allows you to turn it off. So, if your husband is determined to have control, he can turn off the system, make some high-speed swerves and crash your new car into a chicken coop to prove our point.

RAY: But dynamic stability control is something we DO recommend, when it's available. And we hope it will be available on more cars and SUVs as time goes by (Ford just announced that it's putting it on all its SUVs in 2005, and Chevy is putting it on its full-size SHVs and vans)

TOM: By the way, Dee, the Subaru Outback is a very nice car. But since you love your BMW, you might also consider the BMW 325xi. It's smaller than your current 528i, but it comes with all-wheel-drive and dynamic stability control.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk se of cars.com on the World Wide Web. Distributed by King Features Syndicate Inc.

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-34 -27 -5.95 +.01 -.06 -.06 -4.40 -.14

EXCHANGE F	RATES
Military rates	
Japanese yen (Jan. 13)	102.00
South Korean won (Jan. 12)	1.019.00
Euro costs (Jan. 12)	\$1.3506
Dollar buys (Jan. 12)	60.7404
British pound (Jan. 12)	\$1.07
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.377
British pound	\$1.8776
Canada (Dollar)	1.217
Denmark (Krone)	5.6577
Eavot (Pound)	5.9549
Euro	\$1.3123/0.762
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7952
Hungary (Forint)	189.47
Iceland (Krona) Israel (Shekel)	63.025
Israel (Shekel)	4.3687
Japan (Yen)	103.25
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2919
Norway (Krone)	6.2379
Philippines (Peso)	56.07
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.75
Singapore (Dollar)	1.642/
South Korea (Won) Switzerland (Franc)	1,045.00
Thailand (Baht)	1.1013
Turkey (New Lira)	1.4045
	1.4043

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PRECIOUS METALS

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.2
Discount rate	3.2
Federal funds market rate	
3-month bill	2.3
Sources: The Associated P	ress, Bank o

Workers thankful for jobs, not war

By DAVID STREITFELD Los Angeles Times

OPP, Ala. - Euna DuBose works in a factory sewing cam-ouflage trousers for Marines. As the grandmother of three soldiers, this gives her some uneasy moments.

An extra-small pair of pants will make her think, this felw's just a baby. She'll wonder Will he get home safe? And what about her son's sons — one in Afghanistan, one awaiting or ders in Mississippi, one just home from Mosul but perhaps destined to return to Iraq? Du-Bose never had thoughts like this with her last job, when she made Levi's.

"I'd rather be doing jeans,' the 70-year-old said. "No emo-tions were involved."

She doesn't have much choice The last jeans factory here failed two years ago. But the Ma-

rine-uniform plant is thriving. The war in Iraq is giving a boost to Opp and many other communities. Over the past two years, military spending has be-come a pillar of the economy for the first time since President Re-agan ordered the Cold War buildup of the mid-1980s.

Defense spending accounted for 11 percent of the third quarter's economic growth, double the rate of two years ago, according to government figures re-

leased recently.
That number underestimates the effect of the war, analysts say, because it doesn't account for military contractors upping orders of equipment and raw material from their own suppliers, creating a wide ripple

Companies in Evansville, Ind., Union City, Calif., Mullins, and McAllen, Texas, have just been awarded contracts to taling \$91 million to make soldiers' Meals, Ready-to-Eat. Companies in Mount Gilead and Waynesville, N.C., Belleville, Ill., and Atlanta won contracts worth a combined \$70 million to make hot-weather boots. In San Ramon, Calif., ChevronTexaco Corp. received a \$108 million contract for jet fuel.

All of these contracts were awarded by the Defense Logistics Agency, an arm of the De-fense Department that buys apparel, fuel, medicine, construc-tion material and repair parts. For the fiscal year ended Sept. 30, the agency bought \$28 bil-lion worth of materiel and services, up 12 percent from the previous year.

No one is tracking what the spending is doing to employ-ment, but the effect might be considerable. Sopakco Inc., the South Carolina company mak-ing MREs, publicized a \$35 mil-lion contract extension two

years ago as creating 250 jobs. Opp needs any stimulus it can get. Its heyday was 20 years ago, when this region near the Florida border was thick with

apparel plants.

The quest for cheaper labor drove all those factories to Mexico. the Caribbean and Central America. That caused a down-turn that left Opp's downtown with 14 empty stores along its two-block width. Even the Mc-Donald's recently closed

Yet if the war is providing Opp with a rare jolt of economic adrenalin, the reason for the work prompts ambivalence.

"If it weren't for the war, we wouldn't have a job. But that doesn't mean it's good that there's a war," said Patricia Walker, who outlines the flies on 600 pairs of trousers a day. "It makes my head spin." Walker's daughter, Salena, is sta-tioned with the National Guard

ents and Sensibility

Charity deadline extended

NEW YORK - Congress has just passed a law enabling you to donate money for tsunami victims through Jan. 31 and still get a break on your 2004 taxes.

The donations must be made in cash, and they must benefit tsunami victims. The extended deadline doesn't apply to other good intentions, such as charitable gifts to your alma mater, a check to your church or a bag of winter clothes for a local shelter.

Before you donate, make sure you're giving to a reputable organization. Scams tend to spring up after a disaster. Check out the charity at Charity Navigator, a nonprofit organization that evaluates and ranks charitable organizations. The Web site (www.charitynavigator.com) offers a list of its top-ranked charities providing tsunami aid.

Your total tax-deductible charitable donations, including cash and noncash items, are limited to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income. Deductions are valid only for gifts to a recognized charity, meaning it has IRS approval to register as a tax-exempt organization.

When you donate, remember to get a receipt from the charity for tax purposes.



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FRIDAY EVENING / JANUARY 14, 2005

MOVIES

• SPORTS

	חטוו	I LVLIN			14, 200						MOV	IES	• SPORTS
	J	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30
6	AFN-P	•ESPNews	Pacific Report	"Hank's Back Story"	That '70s Show Disturbance at the Formans. (CC)	Wife Swap "Spolan heiress from New Yo wife from rural New	ork swans lives with	Fear Factor (CC)		Pacific Report	The Tonight Show	(CC)	Late Show (CC)
7	AFN-ATL	(5:46) Oprah Win- frey (CC) Hardball With Chris	(:35) Guiding Light		pital (CC)			Today (CC) Fox and Friends		Fox and Friends		Teacher's Pet "Fifi" (EI) (CC)	by-Doo?
8	NEWS			The O'Reilly Factor	r (OC)	Primetime Thursda	iy (CC)	Fox and Friends		Fox and Friends		American Morning	
9	SPORTS	Country Club in Hor	ony Open First Ro olulu. (Taped)		SportsCenter			III Duke at North Can				III UCLA at Arizona S	
10	SPEC	The Simpsons Homer forms a mo- torcycle gang.	Everybody Loves Raymond Ray gets spoiled. (CC)	Charmed "It's a Bac an alternate world w	d, Bad World, Parts O where evil rules. (CC)	Ine and Two" Chris a	nd Leo wind up in	Blue Planet: Seas of Breeding forces sea land. (CC)	of Life "Coasts" birds to come onto	Friends Rachel's sister flirts with Ross. (CC)	Seinfeld Jerry and George reported in- timate. (CC)	(CC)	Blind Date (CC)
	AFN-FAM AFN-MOV	To Be Announced H. Backstories	Rugrats (CC) Ent. Tonight		Dave-Barbarian (2000, Suspense) K		Drake & Josh th Shue.	That's So Raven (:07) ★5 "I Know W		Switched! (CC) ummer" (1997, Horro	Radio-Roscoe or)	The Cosby Show *** "White Men	Home Improve. Can't Jump"
14	тмс	(4:35) **% "Neva- da" (1997) Amy Brenneman.	(:25) ** "Lady Jay niak, Adam Baldwin against a fugitive hit	yne: Killer" (2003, S , Julie Du Page. A m : woman. 'R' (CC)	uspense) Erika Ele- other squares off	*** "Dirty Rotten Glenne Headly: A Br (CC)	n Scoundrels" (1988 Iritish con man challer	, Comedy) Steve Ma nges an American riv	tin, Michael Caine, al to a contest. 'PG'	* * "Double Wham beth Hurley, Steve E practor start a roma	nmy" (2001, Comedy Buscemi. A depressed ance. 'R' (CC)	Denis Leary, Eliza- d cop and his chiro-	(:35) "Bare Wit- ness" (2002) An Everhart. 'R'
24	PBS	nice loses her glasses. (EI)	(CC) (DVS)	The NewsHour Wit (CC)		(N) (CC)	With Fortune (N) (CC)	Strauss' story about	a costume ball in 19	h-century Austria. (N			Wall Street Wee With Fortune (C
25	SHOW	Seann William Scott youth to protect a sa	onk" (2003, Action) , Jaime King, A monl cred scroll, 'PG-13' (k chooses a callow (CC)	(:45) Alfie: SHO Me	derson, Cedric the E ers selling his estab	" (2002, Comedy) loe Entertainer. A barbers olishment. "PG-13" (CC	shop owner consid- ()	Jim Carrey stars.	returns to Huff's fan	tasies. (CC)	Christopher Titus' Is Bleeding (CC)	
27	A&E	murdered by her bo in 1992. (CC)		American Justice * Scandals involving h (CC)		The First 48 "At De Side of the Tracks" A times. (CC)	A man is shot 12	The First 48 "Stripp on Arrival" A two-tim and killed. (CC)	ing boyfriend is shot	(CC)	s missing in Phoenix.	The First 48 Probin store worker docum Miami. (CC)	g the slaying of a ented on video in
28	DISC	To Be Announced		To Be Announced		Africa's Great Rivers	Africa's Great Rivers	Wild and Dangerou	JS	To Be Announced		To Be Announced	
29	TFC	Wazz Up Wazz Up		Bida SI Mister, Bid	a Si Misis	(:05) Insider	Dong Puno Live		(In Tagalog)	Morning Star	(:40) Masayang Tan	ighali Bayan	
30	CNN-I	Lou Dobbs Tonight •(5:30) Big Break	●Inside the PGA	CNN Daybreak	●Big Break II		eEuropean BC 4 C	American Morning olf Scandinavian Mar		Erom Malma C	•Golf Central	●European PGA G	alf Once do F
31	GOLF	What Not to Wear:	Tour	What Not to Wear	, .	What Not to Wear	den.	What Not to Wear:		What Not to Wear		- Final Round, From What Not to Wear	n Paris.
32	TLC	Foster's Home for		sweats. (CC)	Teen Titans	style. (CC)	Cartoon Cartoon C		Looney Tunes	sweats. (CC)	Sheep in the Big	needs fashion help. Detective Squad	(CC)
34	TOON	The Most Extreme		The Most Extreme	"Tough Babies" The			The Most Extreme	·	The Most Extreme	"Tough Babies" The	The Most Extreme	"Rirths" Extreme
35	ANPL	animal behaviors.		top 10 toughest bab kingdom.	ies in the animal	cats. (CC)	South Park Cart-	animal behaviors.	South Park Stan	top 10 toughest bab kingdom.	bies in the animal	births. (CC)	
36	СОМ	The comic makes of (CC) Volcano That Blew	servations on life.	seek employment to help Chef. (CC) Snake Wranglers	cused student in- spires others.		man faces star- dom's pressures.	man starts a rock group. (CC)	enlists dancers for contest. (CC)	Parker, Matt Stone, war on Canada. (CC Built for the Kill "C		Animated. South Par	
40	NGC-A			Researchers hunt for snakes.	"Outback Invasion" Cane toad.	for his rights inside a rivalry.	a family twisted by	-				dia Tigers claim hur	man victims.
42	SPIKE	(5:00) ★¼ "Bloodsp Claude Van Damme	ort" (1988) Jean- . (CC)	kickboxer swears ve	1989, Adventure) Jear engeance after his bro	other is crippled. (CC	()			Blind Date (CC)	Blind Date (CC)	Blind Date (CC)	Blind Date (CC)
43	FOX	That '70s Show Laurie's professor visits. (CC)	That '70s Show Jackie discovers Hyde cheated.	The Simpsons Homer goes on a hunger strike.	Seinfeld George impresses his boss. (CC)	*% "Bait" (2000, Ac miere. A petty thief i	ction) (PA) Jamie Fox is used to flush out a	k, David Morse, Dou high-tech criminal. (C	y Hutchison. Pre- CC)	News		New Year's Eve: Lir Square With Ryan day Tape) (CC)	
44	BET	(4:00) Notarized To 2004.	Video Countdown	Music marathon of t	he best videos of	106 & Party Bringin	ng in the New Year wit	h videos of 2004. (N	1	Club Comic View		BET Late	
46	COURT	Cops Vice unit tar- gets prostitutes. (CC)	Cops "Coast to Coast" Decoy vehi- cle. (CC)	Cops An officer uses a stun gun. (CC)	Cops "Coast to Coast" Deputy pur- sues a driver.	Cops Man is stabbed in his home. (CC)	Cops Officer ques- tions a drunken man.	Cops Burglary sus- pect. (CC)	Cops "Bad Girls 2 Special Edition" Stolen wallet. (CC)	Cops A deputy pur- sues a motorcyclist. (CC)	Cops Home inva- sion suspect chased and shot.	Cops A toddler is kidnapped. (CC)	Cops "Coast to Coast" Man trash house.
48	STR-WLD	The Simpsons (CC)	The Drew Carey Show (CC)	Star News Focus Asia	Friends (CC)	●TNA Wrestling		(CC)	When Hidden Cameras Attack	Ultimate Force		Friends (CC)	Totally Outra- geous Behavior (CC)
50	LIFE	Stockard Channing. fant. (CC)	Kind townspeople be	a) Natalie Portman, A efriend an abandoned	d teen and her in-	willed women gathe	olias" (1989, Comed er at a Louisiana beau	y-Drama) Sally Field, ity parlor. (CC)		,	the life of a mother a during a harsh storn	and unborn child n. (CC)	Paid Program
51	ABCFAM	Smallville "Memoria perimental program (CC)	involving memory.	Anyway? "Party Quirks." (CC)	Whose Line Is It Anyway? "Ques- tions Only." (CC)	The 700 Club (CC)		Oak Ridge Boys: A Christmas		Paid Program	Paid Program	The 700 Club (CC)	
53	HIST	The History of Sex		History of Sex Med courtship practices; by the early Christia	practices promoted	History of Sex "Fro Queen Victoria" (CC		History of Sex "And (CC)		The History of Sex		History of Sex Med courtship practices; by the early Christia	practices promote
57	STR-MV	(5:45) *** "My Bi Nia Vardalos, John (Greeks is engaged)	g Fat Greek Weddin Corbett. The daughte o a WASP.	g" (2002, Comedy) r of traditional		's Kiss" (1989, Horronso, Jennifer Beals. A g for his soul.	or) Nicolas Cage, I romantic encounter	** s "Hannibal" (2 ta. A deranged survi	001, Suspense) Anth ivor lays a trap for the	nony Hopkins, Juliann e brilliant cannibal.	ie Moore, Ray Liot-	(:10) *** "Lord o Drama) Balthazar G Danuel Pipoly.	f the Elice" (1000
58	ADV 1	(5:30) Going to Extreme "Dry"	Game for It	Total Adventure Skiing and climb- ing. (CC)	Adventure Challer		●Lost		Game for It	Going to Extreme ' harvest fog for water	'Dry' People who ir; Arica, Chile.	Next Wave Hunting for caimans.	Total Adventure "Swimming Nor- way"
59	MTV	The Real World Flaunting frater- nization rules. (CC)	The Real World Sarah's family vis- its. (CC)		MTV New Year's Ev	re 2005 (Live)			Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride
60	NICK	Hey Arnold!	SpongeBob SquarePants Bob		ents "Channel Chase	rs' Travel through	The Fairly Odd- Parents Trading	SpongeBob SquarePants (CC)	The Fairly Odd- Parents (CC)	Full House Joey meets the lady of	Full House Stephanie is con-	The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air Carlton	The Cosby Show A voice teacher

JAPAN TV-BS7

Morning 6:15 World News 7:15 World News

8:15 World News 9:15 World News Hour

9.12 worrd NewS Hour 10:10 BS Documentary: Whale Hunting in Ber-ing Strait (r) 11:15 CNN NewS

Afternoon 12:15 ABC News 12:35 PGA Tour Golf Lesson (8)

2:15 PBS NewsHour 3:15 CNN News 4:15 World News Hour 5:15 Asian News

Evening 6:15 CNN News 7:15 News Today: Asia 8:15 News Today: World 9:15 Economic News 10:10 World Reports

11:15 NFL: NFC Wild Card Playoffs: Minneso-ta Vikings vs. Green Bay Packers 1:35 Grand Sumo Digest 2:15 Asian News 3:35 World Amazing Sports

4:15 Asian News 5:10 World News Hou

JAPAN TV

Morning 7:30 Disney (12) Afternoon 3:12 Grand Sumo: The 6th Day (1)

3:12 Grand Sumo: The 6th Day (1) 5:50 News (6) Evening 7:00 News (1) 8:30 Planet Rugby (42) 9:03 U.S. Movie (2001): Driven (1:51)(4) 10:00 News (1) 1:25 Grand Sumo Digest (1) 1:40 PGA Tour: Sony Open in Hawaii (8) 2:40 CBS Documentary (6) 3:00 U.S. Movie (1960): Ocean's Eleven (1:55)(8) 3:10 U.S. Movie (1994): Clifford (1:50)(12) 3:25 Classical Music (1)(r) 4:00 Grand Sumo Digest (1)(r)

JAPAN TV-BS11

10:00 Classical Music: NHK Symphony Or-chestra Concert (conductor: Charles Du-tolt)

tort)
Afternoon
1:00 Grand Sumo Tournament, 6th Day (bilingual after 4 p.m.)
Evening
7:00 NHK News

7:00 NHK News 8:00 U.S. Movie (1990): Presumed Innocent (2:10) 10:10 Inside the Actor's Studio: Jude Law 12:30 Classical Music: Monteverdi's Opera "Orfeo"

wowow

Morning 6:00 The Beat File: Eric Clapton 10:00 U.S. Movie (2002): Local Boys (1:40)

10:00 U.S. Movie (2002): Local Boys (1:40)
Afternoon
12:00 Spy Angel No. 2
Evening
10:00 U.S. Movie (2003): Darkwolf (1:40)
11:40 TY Series: Friends: The Best No. 5
12:10 TY Series: Friends: The Best No. 5
12:10 TY Series: Friends: The Best No. 5
12:10 U.S. Movie (1995): Chain Reaction
(1:55)
4:20 U.S. Movie (2003): In Hell (1:40)

MTV

Morning 6:00 Wake Up! 7:00 M Size Thursday 8:00 Top Choice

10:00 Pure Music 11:00 Top Choice **Afternoon** 12:00 Classic '90s

12:00 Classic '90s 1:00 Screen 1:00 Screen 1:30 Consensus: Spitz 2:00 Pure Music 3:00 Top Choice 4:30 trainsurfer Special 5:00 Japan Chart Top 10 Evening 6:00 M Size Friday 7:00 Rocks 8:00 I bus Ach

8:00 Live: Ash 8:30 Mixshow Live 2004

8:30 Mixshow Live 2004 9:00 - Catch 9:30 Screen Music Video Selection 10:30 Making A Video: Street of the Year 10:30 Making A Video: Street of the Year 10:00 YATAI 2:00 M Size Friday 3:00 Friesh 3:00 Affer Hours

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Stars Stripes | Letters to the editor/opinion

Senior NCO's attitude is lousy

I was disappointed in the Jan. 6 letter by Master Sgt. Kenn Lett ("Disservice announcements"), in which he complains about the decisions being made by the leaders of U.S. Forces Korea. His words do not reflect the leadership characteristics and attitude one would expect from a senior noncommissioned officer.

The responsibilities of military leadership can be very difficult and arduous. In most instances, it takes a combined effort to ensure that the troops are protected from unnecessary danger and peril - and are maintained in a combat-ready status to support our national policy objectives.

Leadership requires individuals who are positive, proactive and focused on the mission. If Master Sgt. Lett does not understand why certain rules have been implemented, then he needs to exhibit a little initiative to find out why certain restrictions have been deemed necessary.

What the commanders do not need is a se nior NCO who is unsupportive, negative and subversive. It is a terrible thing to discover that you are your own worst enemy. Master Sgt. Lett praises Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Terry Scott for his ability to com municate with the troops. Well, Master Sgt. Lett should follow the MCPON's example by trying to ensure the younger troops understand that commanders are concerned about their welfare and safety.

It has been said that leadership is a process of influencing others, and that leaders will have a major impact on the accomplish ment of the mission. Consequently, individuals expect a leader to be committed, enthusi-

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity

Send your letters to: U.S. Mail:

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International mail: Stars and Strines 7-23-17 Roppongi Minato-ku Tokyo 106-0032

Via fax from Japan: 03-3408-8936; DSN 229-3271

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E-mail: letters@pstripes.osd.mil

astic and motivated. But most important of all, a leader must be able to build teamwork in which a sense of mission is pervasive throughout the entire unit.

Master Sgt. Lett needs to decide if he is a team-builder, and if he is willing and able to accept the responsibilities of a senior NCO. If not, then the answer if obvious: He is not ready to be assigned a position that requires trust, stewardship and reliability. A long time ago Aristotle said, "If you cannot learn to obey, then you cannot learn to lead."

Clifton Jester

Kadena Air Base, Okinawa

Stop worrying about CIB

In response to the letter "No CIB in an Army of One" (Dec. 10), I ask: Does any-one see the words "military police," "tanker," "cavalry scout," "medic" or any other military occupational specialty in any part of the Combat Infantryman's Badge? Doubtlessly, or hopefully anyway, no one can truthfully answer that question with a positive response.

MPs, scouts, tankers and those with other MOSs do their job every single day in Iraq, all the while making history as they do those jobs. Just be grateful for what you do have and for knowing what you have done in Iraq, even without the superficial decorations. If you want a badge or other device to display to the world to try to fool them into thinking you did something over here, well ... please inform your branch manager you would like to reclassify to a better - I mean different - MOS. Or inform your branch chief that you would like to create your own "Combat Military Police Badge," or something to the same effect.

We're soldiers - and adults. We are in Iraq of all places and people have time to complain that their "report cards" don't have as many "gold stars" as little Billy? This is ridiculous, almost to the point of being sad. Worry about that stuff when you get home, but please, not here.

Finally, if you have done anything to merit recognition, I'm sure your squared-away leadership will be more than happy to recognize it for you with a personal decoration of some sort.

Cpl. Robert Fullmer Forward Operating Base Warhorse, Iraq

Military can only do what it can afford The Washington Post

hanks to President Bush's tax cuts in a time of war, the Pentagon is beginning to contemplate significant reductions in weapons systems: a reported \$55 billion over the next six years. Some should have been made years ago. Others seem to reflect a frantic search for savings when wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are costing \$5 billion a month and the entire government is under pressure to contribute to Bush's pledge to reduce the budget deficit. Most will face opposition in Congress.

If they are pushed through, the net effect may be to shift the U.S. military closer to preparing for the wars it has actually been fighting during the past four years rather than the ones defense theorists have imagined. Yet they may still leave U.S. forces unprepared to win in Iraq and elsewhere.

The easiest cuts are those in expensive Cold War weapons systems conceived to fight a sophisticated conventional enemy that no longer exists. According to a leaked Pentagon budget document, these include

the F/A-22 Raptor fighter jet, the production of which would be cut by 96 planes worth \$10 billion, and Virginia-class nuclear submarines, which would be reduced by three. Other reductions target programs more pertinent to the post-Cold War world but troubled by development problems, including the V-22 Osprey helicopter and the Bush administration's much-favored missile defense programs, which would be cut by \$5 billion

These reductions are sensible and straightforward, though their congressional defenders, for whom they represent local jobs, can be expected to fight them tenaciously. More problematic are the deferral of weapons systems that the military has previously described as part of its 21st cen-tury "transformation," including new cargo planes and amphibious ships and destroyers designed to fight along shorelines. A proposal to retire the oldest of the Navy's 12 aircraft carriers, the John F. Kennedy, will require administration officials to explain why the country can afford a loss in the power projection offered by carriers. Their value has been illustrated in an unconventional way this month by their role in [aiding] tsunami-devastated areas of As

The cutbacks will be accompanied by one important addition, \$25 billion for an ongoing Army program to break down unwieldy divisions into more-flevible brigades. This could make it possible to deploy more of the Army more quickly, which in turn would help with the burden of fighting two wars. Yet Rumsfeld, who clings to his pre-Iraq vision of a lighter, more-high-tech military, still stubbornly resists the obvious need to expand the active-duty Army and Marines to accommodate the low-tech. manpower-intensive challenge of defeating the insurgencies in Iraq and Afghanistan. ... Even if Iraq is stabilized and U.S. troops

can be withdrawn in the coming four years, as Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld re-cently suggested, an investment in a larger Army and Marine Corps is more likely to help win the war on terrorism than is more high technology. Rather than fight the weapons cuts the Pentagon is preparing, Congress ought to insist that the administration use some of the savings to create the military needed now

Doonesbury









BY GARRY TRUDEAU

sendina sianals

that their

people have had

enouah.

Abbas, Sharon have support, need a plan

n a region where so much has gone so wrong for so long, it is difficult to be more than cautiously optimistic about the prospects for peace and stability in the Middle East. But the latest developments do augur well.

There is opportunity at hand. If the hatred and mistrust spawned by recent history can be overcome, leadership appears willing to forge a new future that will include an independent Palestinian state sharing the Holy Land with Israel

President Bush said he expects this to happen by the end of his second term. That will require the United States to be a forceful and scrupulously honest broker between the two sides. Beyond ending the violence that keeps so much

of the world away from cherished religious and historic sites, a renewed involvement in a Mideast peace process offers the United States a chance to improve its international image

In an election that appeared largely trouble-free, Palestinians on Sunday chose Mahmoud Abbas as their new leader, replacing Yasser Arafat, who died in November. Abbas ran an almost rorists as heroes while calling for an end to violence against Israel

At the core, he seems to be a pragmatist, recognizing that a four-year campaign of terror against Israel has done the Palestinians far more harm than good. His wide margin of victory represents an endorsement of that view by the Palestinian people, but Abbas will have to be diligent about keeping seething terrorist elements in line.

Leaders of Hamas insist they will not try to undermine Abbas, but they have not agreed

to abandon terrorism Meantime, the Israeli Parliament on Monday approved Prime Minis ter Ariel Sharon's new government, restoring the majority he needs to proceed with Israel's an-

nounced pullout of military forces from the Gaza Strip, further enhancing the prospect for productive peace talks.

Both sides are sending signals that their people have had enough. The next question is where are they willing to go

The path is obvious, but in the Middle East, that has rarely been the one taken



Campaign affected, but didn't dominate, letters page

his is a follow-up column on Stripes' coverage of the 2004 political campaign in the States (the first one, "On balance, Stripes had successful campaign," appeared in the Dec. 9

edition). It deals with **Ombudsman** letters to the editor on

politics during the last four months of the cam-Two hundred eighty-two letters were charted. One hundred

twenty-six of them (44.7 percent) dealt

with the campaign. Letters on the presidential candidates and politi cal philosophy totaled 96 of the 126. The remaining 30 campaign-related letters were about media is

sues. The breakdown of the 96 letters deal ing with candidates and the race was: pro-President Bush — 44 (45.8 percent); pro-Sen. John Kerry — 30 (31.3 percent); pro-conservative positions but didn't name Bush 6 (6.2 percent): pro-liberal positions but didn't name Kerry - 5 (5.2 percent); neutral - 11 (11.5 percent).

The tone, as was true of letters in the U.S newspapers that I read, was strident on both sides in most of the letters.

A pro-Bush letter: "Having made his only qualification to be president of the United States a four-month tour in Vietnam, 'war hero' John Kerry is being confronted with his own accounts of his service record.

A pro-Kerry letter: "Republican re-elec-tion committees, and their associates, are known for the nastiness of their campaigns against Democratic opponents. Their re-cent, and incredible, attack on John Kerry's Vietnam combat record reveals the depth of their nastiness and has taken the Republican Party to an all-time low."

A moderate perspective was reflected in the neutral letters. A soldier in Baghdad wrote: "I generally like to read your letters to the editor page; it is generally filled with good things and supportive things, which make people feel better. ... But all too often it is filled with negative things, such as passing the blame for America's problems, problems with representatives, or problems in society in general. ... The harsh reality is that we are members of the greatest nation in the world and the only reason that we are that nation is because the people stood together in whatever endeavor it faced. We fought to have the freedom that we have

A sergeant in Baghdad wrote: "[As I read Stripes] I note the strong agreement or disagreement with a wide range of topics. I would just ask all of us to think about how fortunate we are able to voice our disagreement in an open forum."

In the heat of such a close and sharply partisan campaign, it was not surprising for the media to be part of the crossfire. A letter complaining about too much of Fox News Channel on American Forces Network drew two supporting letters and five letters defending AFN. There was not any substance to the original complaint that I could find. Stripes. The Associated Press and Garry Trudeau's "Doonesbury" cartoon strip (which appears on the letters page) also

there were 15 critical letters and 11 positive letters. The complaint against Stripes was that it had shifted to the left. One officer in Iraq based his complaint on

Stripes being a "leftist rag" because it published only two pictures of Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's visit to coalition troops in Baghdad.

The ombudsman also was criticized. After the June 28 ombudsman column "Discovering whether Stripes stories cover all bases a reader in Germany wrote: "Please, oh, please — spare us 'a series of columns on five topics' from Stars and Stripes' ombudsthe one I've characterized as the apologist for Stars and Stripes. He has lately 'discovered' whether Stars and Stripes stories 'cover all bases.' As you might expect, he discovers that Stars and Stripes does 'cover all bases.' Not that I disagree with him, I just figure he doesn't know what he's talking

However, it is reassuring to see that Stripes readers continue to write on a wide range of topics and are candid in their views. The subjects included:

a letter calling for Rumsfeld to resign

nearly a dozen letters on whether the use of prostitutes by military personnel should be prohibited;

■ gasoline prices and the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (the number of letters on this topic is down since my last review, but there is still great interest in that issue): and

a debate over which NFL games AFN should televise

It was good news to see not a single letter about mail problems. It also was pleasing to see a large number of letters from Iraq. Of the 282 letters charted, 117 (41 percent) were from military personnel serving in Iraq. On politics, 11 of the 44 pro-Bush letters were from Iraq; three of the 30 pro-Kerry letters were from Iraq.

My conclusion: Stripes continues to carry out its mission of providing through the letter pages a great forum for the military community overseas.

Send comments to Joe Ungaro at: Ombudsman, Stars and Stripes, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington, D.C. 20045-1301. Phone civilian +1(401) 364-6032; fax +1(401) 364-8696; or e-mail: man@strines.osd.mi

BY BRUCE TINSLEY

Mallard Fillmore

...THAT THIS YEAR'S SUPER .AND FOX HAS, ONCE AGAIN, ASSURED BOWL HALFTIME VIEWERS AND SHOW WILL ADVERTISERS, TALENTED CONTAIN NO BAPELY CLOTHED PERFORMERS

STARS AND S PAGE 16 J 9/3464646184

Mine deaths settled

AL BROOKWOOD — A settlement has been reached in lawsuits stemming from the nation's deadliest mining accident since 1984: a series of explo sions at a central Alabama mine in 2001 that killed 13 miners.

The settlement re-

solved all civil legal proceedings associated with the Sept. 23, 2001, explosions against mine owner Jim Walter Resources,

Walter Industries and its affiliated companies, according to a Jim Walter statement.

Company officials would not comment on the settlement details. "This has been a very difficult, emotional time for all whose lives have been affected by this trage-

dy." said George Richmond, president and chief operating officer of Jim Walter

Keep off the ice

NH CONCORD — Snowmobil-ers are being warned to stay off the ice after a weekend in which three snowmobilers went through thin ice into Lake Winnipesaukee. One died.

"The ice conditions are treacherous" Fish and Game Lt. Jim Goss said. "Most of the lake is still wide-open water.'

Even close to shore, the ice was probably only 4 to 6 inches thick, Goss said.

Suspect kills self

VA RICHMOND — Virginia State Police say a Connecticut man wanted in a murder investigation in Florida took his life late Monday as troopers closed in on him

Officers were pursuing the man on Interstate 95 near Richmond when the man pulled over and shot himself in the head, said Sgt. Kevin Barrick.

The man, whose identity was not released, was pronounced dead at VCU Medical Center.

Key West Police notified Virginia authorities that the man and his 18-year-old son were heading for Connecticut in a white Lincoln Continental, Barrick said.

About 45 minutes after getting the alert, a trooper spotted the car. Barrick said the man's son was not in the car

Trucker gets prison time

CO BRECKENRIDGE — A driver who lost control of his tractor trailer on Interstate 70 and caused a pileup that killed a man has been sentenced to 12 years in prison.

Rosauro Saenz showed little emotion as Judge David Lass sentenced him to two six-year sentences for vehicular homicide and vehigular assault for the grash that injured 10 neonle

Saenz, of El Paso, Texas, will serve the sentences after completing a federal sentence for transporting drugs into Texas from Mexico. That sentence ends next year.

Prosecutors said Saenz was going at least 35 mph over the speed limit on westbound I-70 between Silverthorne and the Eisenhower Tunnel when he crashed into a minivan, then smashed into three other vehicles and plowed over the guardrail into a ravine.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Bow hunt shot down

VA PORTSMOUTH — After a proposal to hold a public bow hunt of deer at Hoffler Creek Wildlife Preserve caused a stir the foundation that runs the 142-acre property decided to drop the idea.

Instead, after consulting with a Fairfax County expert and counting the deer, the city is considering hiring police sharpshooters to shoot the animals to manage their population, Councilwoman Elizabeth M. Psimas said.

Last year, the City Council quashed the idea of a bow hunt after representatives of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and residents flooded city offices with complaints.

Striking it rich

SD SIOUX FALLS — Some city officials earn more than the mayor and even the governor, city officials said. Lyle Johnson, city public works director, heads the city's salary list at \$137,280. Gov. Rounds' yearly salary is \$103,221, which would put him in sixth place if he worked for the city. The mayor earns \$96,173.

Principal sues police

MS SPRINGFIELD

school principal is suing four city police officers who he says dragged him through the window of his car and beat him while he was having a diabetic attack.



Smooth sailing A sailboat floats down the Halifax River through late afternoon fog in Daytona Beach Shores, Fla.

Douglas Greer, a primary school principal, says police accused him of being a drug user before eventually getting him medical heln.

Greer is seeking an unspecified amount of money in the federal lawsuit.

The suit says the officers kicked, choked and beat Greer as he repeatedly told them he was diabetic and needed juice or sugar.

The four officers have denied the accusations. A lawyer for two of them, Kevin Coyle, said his clients gave Greer "appropriate medical assistance

The four have been placed on administrative duty, and the police commission is investigating Greer's

Kangaroo can stay

WI MADISON — A kangaroo that went on a walkabout of frigid Wisconsin just might settle down in the Midwest after all.

The red-haired marsupial, now known as "Roo," was captured outside of Dodgeville after sheriff's deputies cornered the 150-pound critter in a barn during a snowstorm.

Roo remains under quarantine at the Henry Vilas Zoo, and if no one claims it, zoo officials plan to introduce it to their other kangaroos to see if they get along.

But if things don't work out, Margaret Suter said she has room at her home near Madison, where she already keeps six kangaroos and a wallaby.

"I worried for that kangaroo. It lost its caregiver," Suter said. "And if you own one of these animals, you shouldn't turn your back

Governor urges tolerance

OR SALEM — Gov. Ted Kulongoski urged state legisla. tors to pass a bill outlawing discrimination against homosexuals.

In his "state of the state" address to a joint session of the Legislature as it began its 2005 session. Kulongoski said he will submit a bill that would forbid discrimination against gays in employment, housing and public accommodations

Hospital shooting arrests

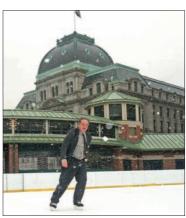
MERIDIAN — Two people were arrested Sunday in a fatal shooting at a hospital that may have been related to an earlier murder-suicide attempt, police said.

One of the suspects was arrested at Rush Foundation Hospital and the other turned himself in to police, Meridian Police Chief Benny Dubose said. Both were expected to be charged Monday.

The man fatally shot at the hospital was the son of a man who Dubose said shot himself and a woman at a Meridian home Sunday morning in an apparent murder-suicide attempt. Dubose said one of the suspects is the woman's

The man and woman found at the home did not suffer life-threatening injuries. The fatal shooting victim's name was not immediate. ly released by authorities.

Police closed off the hospital for several hours after the shooting to search for the gunmen.



Michael Rubin skates on The cutting edge of fitness the Fleet Center skating rink in front of the Providence, R.I., City Hall. Rubin is part of a growing number of adults hitting the ice for fitness and pleasure.



Mara Finley, left, and Ivy Johnson of Luding-Sledding fun ton, Mich., try to keep their balance as they sled at the water tower hill. Area schools were closed due to icy roads.



Recycling Hawaii-style Jenny Wells, of Kailua, Hawaii, center, gives her bags of aluminum cans to Mark Garcia, right, and Benjamin Onaga of Reynold's Recycling in Kailua. Hawaii recently became the first state in 16 years to pass a container redemption law. Hawaii has one of the most comprehensive programs in the country.



Where's the steeple? The steeple on Sacred Heart Church in Fried, N.D., is cut and removed from the building. The church will be moved in February from Fried to Sunset Memorial Gardens, a Jamestown, N.D., cemetery. The steeple will be erected at its original site in Fried with the three bells as a memorial for the cemetery there.



A real cool cat Acat bats around a chunk of snow while proviling around homes in Kalispell, Mont. According to an owner of a nearby home, the cat was abandoned when its family moved, but some neighbors adopted the cat and share in its feeding and carine.



Brothers, one-on-one Siblings Scott Zeiber, 16, left, and Justin Zeiber, 15, take advantage of the warm weather to play basketball in a parking lot behind their home in Phillipsburg, N.J.



A natch of blue

Dark clouds driven by high winds break behind a windmill in Macedon, N.Y.

Fired preacher won't go

MARION — Grace Missionary Baptist Church wants the pastor to quit preaching to the choir — and everybody else. And the church's trustees are going to court to stop him.

The Rev. Ed McDowell Jr., who

served at the church for more than 13 years, was fired in December after a vote by both the trustees and members.

But McDowell, 63, continues to preach there because he says the vote was invalid. He has changed the locks at the church and has tried to fire church officials himself, court records said.

Church leaders have asked for a restraining order that would force McDowell to return church property, remove his personal belongings and block him from using church funds for his legal defense.

Ballot pileup

NH DOVER — Old election ballots are taking up space in town and city halls across New England.

Laws require clerks to keep federal ballots for 22 months before destroying them, in case anyone requests a recount.

In New Hampshire, state law requires clerks to hold onto state and local election ballots for two months. In Maine, clerks must keep

all ballots for the full 22 months.
Belmont's clerk is storing five large boxes full of ballots from the presidential primaries alone. Dover's city clerk is storing nearly

20,000 ballots from the November elections.

Town officials reported different plans for disposing of the ballots. Some will be shredded, others incinerated. Many ballots will go straight to the dump.

Expanding its territory

NM SILVER CITY — Current boundaries of the wolf reintroduction program are causing too many wolves to be captured, removed from the wild or relocated.

That's according to a five-year review of the program by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the New Mexico and Arizona game and fish departments.

Government biologists propose an expansion of the area where the endangered Mexican gray wolves have been allowed to roam.

Flag this one

OH CLEVELAND — Using two people and making 17 folds, a 19-year-old Boy Scout devised a way to fold the state's pen-ant-shaped flag into a rectangle. The solution became a new state law and earned Alex Weinstock his Eagle Scout ranking. Ohio's state flag is the only one

Ohio's state flag is the only one that doesn't have four 90-degree corners.

Mom made her do it

MIAMI — A woman has pleaded guilty to sending her 11-year-old daughter outside their home in her nightgown to peddle heroin.

Alison Lolanda Davis. 37, was

sentenced to five years in prison in a plea deal. She's been in jail since being arrested last January, unable to make \$120,000 bond, and was given credit for time served.

A prosecutor said proceedings

were pending in juvenile court to terminate Davis' parental rights. The girl, who was not charged, is

in state custody along with a sister.

Police said they started watching the South Miami house in October 2003 based on a tip. Officers said they saw the girl regularly selling \$10 and \$20 doses of heroin to

Nun's remark backfires

drivers and pedestrians.

WOODBRIDGE — Charges were dismissed against Sister Catherine Iacouzze, 69, who had been accused of threatening to knock out the teeth of a St. Cecelia School student for leaving class without permission.

The 11-year-old student's father withdrew the charges after the Diocese of Metuchen fired the nun. Iacouzze's lawyer said she only made a sarcastic remark to a sassy student.

Bible study vetoed

FRANKENMUTH — A rural school district will not offer a religious group's bible class as an elective high school course, ending a yearlong debate.

The school board in Frankenmuth, about 75 miles north of Detroit, decided with one dissenting vote to not offer the "Bible As Literature and History" class at Frankenmuth High School, following the recommendation of school Superintendent Michael Murbhy.

The proposed class would have been based on materials from the National Council on Bible Curriculum in Public Schools of Greensboro, N.C.

Defendant takes a break

MA EAST BROOKFIELD — While jurors deliberated the fate of a man accused of selling a stolen gun to a pawn shop, the defendant went out for a cup of coffee

A week later, Peter J. Leo, 32, of Worcester is still is on the run.

According to court records, Leo was being tried on charges of larcemy, carrying a firearm without a license and receiving stolen property. His lawyer, Christopher Loconto, said Leo was accused of selling a pistol that did not belong to him to a pawn shoon in 2002.

After listening to closing arguments, jurors left to begin their deliberations. Leo and his girlfriend also left the courtroom, saying they were going for coffee, a court officer told The Telegram & Gazette of Worcester.

The jurors returned to the court-

The jurors returned to the courtroom a short time later to deliver their verdict, but Leo was not there to hear he had been found guilty.

Hackers get student info

NA RICHMOND — Computer hackers captured the hackers captured the names, Social Security numbers and other information of more than 30,000 students and staff at George Mason University earlier this month, school officials said.

The university, which is in Fairfax, near Washington, D.C., discovered on Jan. 3 that intruders had hacked into a server containing the protected information, school spokesman Daniel Walsch said. He said the university notified all students and staff.

The school established an information hot line and turned the case over to campus police, he said.

proceedings Photos and stories from wire services

Holiday Mathis

J Horoscope

The influence of Capricorn planets can be transforming - not in a caterpillar-turned-butterfly way but

more in a rehellious-vouth-turned-soldier way. There's boot camp involved. Capricom is a tough-love energy for certain, but it works brilliantly to push people, situations and projects to the next level Your hard work is changing vou

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (January 14). You take your life in a new directions

this year, and you have more control than ever over one of them. It's liberating to know you can steer yourself with such precision - an achievement in the next seven weeks proves this to be true. Solo endeavors in February make you appreciate partners even more. A Libra or Capricorn could steal your heart

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Some activities that should fall under

the category of success don't make you feel successful. Consider that success may mean something different to you than it does to oth ers. Enjoying your creativity is key.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It seems safer to be floating in outer space than to get mixed up in certain relationship turmoil. But don't be fooled. Outer space has its dangers, too, what with the black suns, neutron storms, radiation and the like. Come back to Earth.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll take an action that has no other purpose but to make someone

crazy. And to you, this falls under the category of "fun." That's the beautiful thing about you — you're a provocateur. Never change.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll learn enough about your fellow man to be glad for your own good fortunes - and your misfortunes, actually. Your complaints about life are so much more appealing and interesting than anyone else's

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Once again, there's proof that intellect is wasted if one isn't also people smart. A concept explored in the first season of "The Apprentice" applies: There's little correlation between a high IQ and success in lemonade

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're ready to go it alone. Then, loved ones surprise you by wanting

to be involved in more of your life's activities than you thought would interest them. Chalk it up to the fact that you're just cool.

LIBRA (Sept.

23-0ct. 23). Though it may seem strategic to play the freshman, eager for his upperclassman's counsel, this doesn't serve your long-term numose. You already

know more than you think you know Trust that, and dive into your project.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your status in the game isn't deter mined by a solitary winning move or a single losing move. Taking steps forward and backward is to be expected. Cheer yourself on no matter what, and others will follow

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You define your goals and targets, but then, when you get going, it doesn't feel like work. It feels like you're just being really silly. That's how you know you're on the right path.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Whether negative or positive, you put your attention on things for a reason. Regarding your arch nemesis. It's obvious to the rest of the world that you really care for this person, but you may still be too stubborn to admit it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

You're so over being heavy and serious. Doting on someone who doesn't particularly deserve it take your pampered pet, for instance - puts you in a lighthearted, frivolous and exceptionally attractive

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You actually add hours to your life when you put a seal on one of your time drains. Perhaps stop watching

a certain TV show, stop talking to a long-winded person or stop going into that store where the lines are so long

Creators Syndicate

Peanuts









or Worse











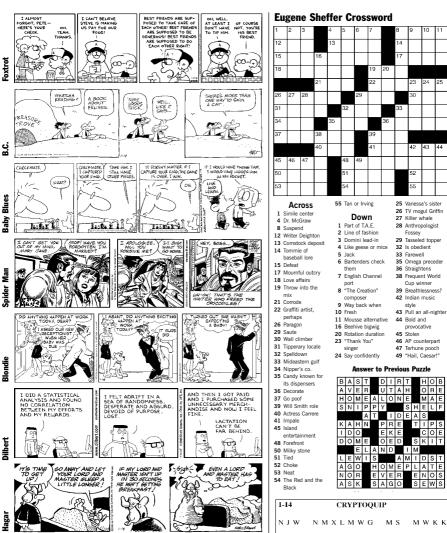
DAUGHTER ISN'T SPENT, ELIZABETH IT'S INVESTED.



ELLEN, WORDS CANNOT DESCRIBE MY FEELINGS FOR YOU... W

VAVES

-50 LET ME EXPRESS THEM WITH MUSIC INSTEAD



MWKK J W L ELHWPG MXKW PSSNW, XTSBM X TBM MJWP J W L KWEM JXPUHPU BECAUSE THE Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MATTRESS ON HER GUEST BED IS SO FIRM, IT CREATES LOTS OF HARD FEELINGS. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals H

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

I'm getting my degree this year. Forty years

Man's new lifestyle not wife's fault JUMBLE

Dear Abby: I am ashamed to admit this, but after 20 years of marriage, my husband told me that he was meant to have a woman's body. My self-confi-dence is destroyed. Our children are suffering in every aspect of their lives. I cannot grasp my husband's revelation, as I Dear Abby

love him still. I also accept that this is something I cannot change, but ever since we separated, the men I have dated have all

Is it me? Am I cursed? - Devastated in Detroit Dear Devastated: This has nothing to do with you, and there are no curses involved. Your

to grips with this issue Since your husband is consider-ing gender reassignment, it follows that he is seeing a therapist.

therapist to refer you to a psy-chologist or psychiatrist.

Dear Abby: I am in college, and four out of five of my roommates smoke. About two-thirds of my friends are smokers, too They all know it's bad for them, but it is hard to quit.

I see cigarette packs and lighters lying around and I am very tempted to start smok ing. I don't know why, because I know it's unhealthy. I have never smoked, but I'm afraid that I'll start. How can

I make the right move?

— Nail-Biting in
Rochester, N.Y. Dear Nail-Biting

Making "the right decision" will be easier if you remove yourself from temptation. Request a change of living quarters to accommodations that are strictly nonsmoking, because research has proven that secondhand smoke can make you sick.

Dear Abby: I am 16 and the

mother of a beautiful little boy. His father is no longer in the nicture

There is a man in my life who loves my son and me very much. I'll call him Joe, Joe and I have been together for eight incredible months, and he recently proposed to me.

One week later, I caught him cheating. Joe told me how sorry he was and begged me to give him another chance. I agreed

But, Abby, things don't s the same anymore. It feels like I'm the only one trying in this relationship. Was I wrong to give him a second chance?

— Confused in Reno Nev Dear Confused: Yes. A man who is sincerely in love, and mature enough for marriage and fatherhood, does not cheat a week after he proposes. You are only 16. It's time to step back and consider how you plan to raise vour son

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at

http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby Universal Press Syndicate

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

one letter to each square UROCC ioune Media Services, In SBELS

SNULES.

Answer

ARIVED

WHEN THE RETIREE RETURNED TO COLLEGE, HE WAS PLACED IN THE---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Jumbles CUBIC AMOEBA CHROME

What the barber did on vacation -

COMBED* THE BEACH



"If you think this is loud, wait till you hear him when I take him OUT of the tub!"

turned out to be gay husband was born the wrong gender, and it's nobody's Counseling can help you come

You need help, too. I recommend that you ask his

strong interest in Catherine. This

doesn't surprise me, as Catherine

What bothers me is that over

dinner one recent evening, Cathe

married John herself, so that she

could have traveled with him to

Hawaii, Cancun, etc., as John

their wedding.

and Geraldine have done since

Am I being overly sensitive to object to Catherine's continued

- Dazed and Confused

relationship with John?

rine lamented about having not

is a very attractive woman.

Too sensitive to fiancee's quip Dear Annie: My but vou are a little

Annie's Mailbox over-sensitive on this fiancee, "Catherine," has issue. Catherine is not told me that I am overly carrying a torch for John. She is carrying sensitive. As you might expect, I disagree with one for Hawaii. She her, so I am asking you envies the traveling Catherine is friends that John and his wife with "John and Geraldi have been able to afne," whose company I do ford. We will say, hownot particularly care to ever that she evkeep. This couple was pressed it rather insenmarried two years ago-immediately after John sitively, considering that you take these divorced his first wife. things to heart. Prior to pursuing Geraldine, however. John expressed a

Tell her, gently, that it hurts when she makes it sound as if she would rather be engaged to John instead of you. Then let her make it up to you.

Dear Annie: Our office staff often hosts meetings for small groups in our conference room This past week, we were the hosts for a meeting, and a young woman who was attending offered to bring refreshments for the participants. We were very grateful to her, as we usually

provide only coffee and water The young woman in question brought cookies, and after the meeting, she took the remaining cookies with her. Is this appropri ate behavior, or should she have left the cookies for the hosts Some of our staff has likened this to bringing a bottle of wine to a dinner party and asking that the

unused portion be returned to Another group feels she is entitled to the leftover cookies since she brought them. What do you say?

 Wondering in Wyoming
 Dear Wondering: This was not
a social event, like a dinner party. She was bringing the cook ies for the participants. Although it would have been nice for her to share the extra calories with your office staff, she no doubt assumed she had to clean un after the meeting and took the cookies with her. No faux pas intended

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox/@comeast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syncates, 577 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.





"GINA CAN DO A FIGURE EIGHT, BUT JOEY'S STILL LEARNIN' FIGURE ONE."



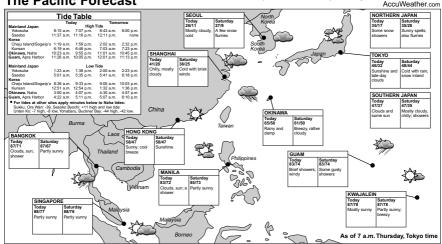
w.familycircus.com

Hannibal's first attempt



The Pacific Forecast

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Extended Forecasts

TOKYO

high 45 low 31

TOKYO Sunday: Partly sunny, high 46, low 34. Monday: Partly sunny,

KADENA

Sunday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 59, low 48. Monday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 61, low 50.

SEOUL

Sunday: Partly sunny, high 30, low 16. Monday: Partly sunny, high 31, low 13.

Sunday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 85, low 73. Monday: Partly sunny, high 85, low 61.

MANILA

HAGATNA

Sunday: Showers, high 85, low 74. Monday: Showers, high 85, low 74.

Wednesday's USA Temperatures

	-		
CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	46/22	Los Angeles	64/46
Amarillo	53/23	Little Rock	73/52
Anchorage	5/-5	Louisville	72/61
Asheville	67/46	Miami	80/73
Baltimore	55/46	Milwaukee	46/31
Birmingham	70/59	Nashville	69/60
Bismarck	26/-8	New York	44/38
Boise	38/25	Omaha	31/15
Boston	40/34	Orlando	81/62
Brownsville	82/58	Philadelphia	50/44
Buffalo	49/43	Phoenix	63/38
Burlington	36/34	Pittsburgh	65/57
Charleston, St	C 72/57	Portland, OR	46/34
Charlotte	73/54	Portland, ME	33/29
Cleveland	64/54	Salt Lake City	35/22
Columbus, OF		St. Louis	71/38
Duluth	30/4	San Antonio	78/49
El Paso	56/28	San Diego	64/46
Hartford	37/35	San Juan	83/72
Helena	20/0	Tampa	80/64
Indianapolis	67/50	Tulsa	69/34
Jacksonville	80/58	Washington	59/50
Kansas City	42/26	Wichita	45/24



U.S. Extended Forecast

Arctic air will surge into the East on Friday, replacing Thursday's springlike conditions. Along the leading edge of the colder air, rain and thunderstorms will soak coastal areas during the morning hours. Temperatures will drop all afternoon in places such as Boston and New York City. High pressure will settle over the northern Plains and provide sunshine but bitterly cold temperatures. Highs will struggle to reach minus 10 Friday afternoon across the Dakotas and northern Minnesota. The West Coast will have dry and sunny weather; it will be quite cold in the Northwest. Over the weekend, a storm will bring some rain, drizzle and snow to parts of the Northwest.

Friday's Pacific Temperatures

Friday's World Temperatures

ay o . aoo .opo.ata.oo						ay o rrona romporatareo							
CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY H	IIGH/LOW
Bangkok	87/71	lwakuni	46/34	Sasebo NB	47/37	Acapulco	89/72	Budapest	33/22	Kabul	39/16	Nairobi	82/53
Beijing	28/13	Kadena AB	65/58	Sapporo	35/17	Athens	50/36	Buenos Aires	82/66	Kiev	26/16	New Delhi	75/47
Camp Casey	27/12	Kunsan AB	32/22	Seoul	26/11	Auckland	74/62	Cairo	64/40	Kuwait	65/43	Oslo	31/20
Christchurch	74/58	Kwajalein	87/78	Shanghai	41/28	Baghdad	63/40	Cancun	82/67	London	46/37	Paris	41/34
Diego Garcia	86/77	Manila	83/72	Singapore	88/77	Barbados	82/65	Cape Town	79/59	Madrid	54/44	Rio de Janeiro	77/68
Hagatna	83/74	Misawa AB	35/21	Sydney	96/76	Barcelona	54/40	Geneva	41/37	Mexico City	64/45	Rome	49/35
Hanoi	57/47	Osan	29/13	Taegu	37/22	Berlin	37/25	Istanbul	47/32	Montreal	37/10	St. Petersburg	28/18
Hong Kong	58/47	Perth	80/60	Taipei	60/45	Bermuda	74/64	Jerusalem	59/46	Mogadishu	90/74	Stockholm	29/19
Honolulu	83/68	Pusan	40/27	Tokyo	46/32	Brussels	40/32	Johannesbur	g 82/60	Moscow	31/21	Warsaw	31/20



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for SS80 at the furniture store.
Got PCS orders and need to
sell. Only had for 3 months.
Looks brand new \$480 DB0.
Call lan or Amy \$46/2001 or
email lareeves@hotmail.com spice rack \$10. Call #646-4574
re-mail sulvoem@vahoo.com.
Humphreys - One large roomsize air conditioner, these smaller air conditioners. All working
good when replaced. Total for
all four - \$250.00. Call
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np). \$15 Great condition,
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Kinser, Okinawa - Bissell Clear view Vacuum cleaner. Bag less, 12 amps, all attachments included. Recombly put new belts, light, filters, and wheels. Almost brand new condition now. \$45 c a 1 i s 6 3 7 - 4 3 8 6 jann8 154 dryahoo.com jenn8164@yahoo.com
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146 Atsugi - 93 Nissan March. Four doors, CD player, good tires, well maintained. Inspection, JCI, and Road Tax until August 2006. Asking \$1,000. Call 264-6449

264-6449.

Atsugi - 94 Nissan Skyline: Dark grey, 4-door, automatic, power window, power locks, CD/AM/FM/Cassette, JCI until April 2005. Asking \$2,500 OBO. Gall Brad 264-6153. Call Braid 264-6153.

Atsugi - 95 Mitsubishi Chariot:
CDiCassette, new tires/battery,
and tune-up. JCI until May 2006.
Asking \$2,000 OBO. Cal
264-3278 or 090-4223-5903.

Misawa - 1998 Land Rover Discovery V8I, 512,000. Olive Green, 55,000 kilometers, tinted windows, leather, dual airbags, antiliock braking systems, keyless entry, two surrecots, roof rack, front bar with auxiliary lights, and much more. Confact Joe Siddail at 226-6130/222-9905 or email siddall@msa.attmil.ne.jp Yokota - 1993 Nissan: Skyline GTS-1, black, 2-door, automatic, many extras, JCI until 2006 \$3600 calls 227-8627.

Autos for Sale - Korea

2003 Ford Escape XLT. Only 8,000 Miles, Dark Blue Metallo, Power Windows, Power Locks, Leather, Air Condition, 8-Disc Changer Call Don at 728-981 or 016-3040-7145 Carol, Korosa . 1998 JEEP WEMMCLER and L. Andr CD Doors Soft Top Great Shape, ONLY 16,000 Miles \$11,000. Contact Mr. White at 017-524-4569 or whiter@korea. army and 080 Foster, Okinawa - 10 yards of burlap, \$10.00 call 645-3107.

Autos for Sale - Korea

Humpherys - 1992 Dodge Cargo Van. New Brakes & Rotors, Wheel Bearings, Alternator, Fuel Pump, Water Pump, Too Much To list. \$1000 or Best offer. Call Daryl or June at: Home; 031-657-2686, Cell: 016447-5553, Work 031-753-8785.

Osan - 1992 Ranger V6 -Automatic with OD AC ABS, Excellent wheels, tires, paint, & toolbox. Beautiful truck. \$2,400. OBO. Call 017-346-2552 or email rusty_grubb@yahoo.com

Yongsan - 2002 Ford F150 XLT Longbed Pick-up truck. 4X4, FX4 Offroad package, Camper shell, Dark Blue Metallic, 35K miles, 5.4 liber V-8, Auto, ABS,

miles, 5.4 liter V-8, Auto, ABS, AC, Titwheel, Captains chairs, PW, PDL, CC, AM/FM Cass-6 disc CD, Exc condition, runs & drives great. \$22,000. 0 1 0 - 4 7 2 3 - 2 1 5 7 . mx69s:inephee@botmail.com

Autos for Sale - Okinawa

Jaum at Usb-1514-4775
Courtney - 1998 Nessan Skyline
4 door, JCI - 10/2006. Available
1an 15th due to PCSing, Intel
25-5084 or him 622-5506
Courtney - 89 Toyota Surf
asking: \$1,500 OBQ, AVC QA
CD piptyer, and \$PCSing in
100 DBQ AVC QBB in
evening call 622-8302
evening call 622-8302 Foster - 1990 TOYOTA MAS-TERACE SURF_VAN: Power

everything, AM/FM Cassette Radio and New tires. Very well maintained and very dependable van. JCI: Oct. 2006 Asking: \$1,500.00/OBO. POC: Ron & 646-4831 or cruzer23@oasis.

Autos for Sale - Okinawa 152

Autos for Sale

- Okinawa

Foster - 1991 Blue Nissan Phimera, JG Feb 06, 145,000 KM, ACC, CD player, Fluns GOD, Call Revent Files GOD, Call Marc or Shenny & 646-8258 Foster - 1991 Toyla Surf 4X4-JG urell June 2006 \$3500 OBO Call Seed of the Conditioning, Turbo Timer, Power Steering, Power Windows, Rear Window Vellent Mechanical Condition, Great for Family, Exploring and Diving! Contest Kumiko, as

Great for Family, Exploring and Diving! Contact Kumiko at 646-6752 for information or Ken 632-3805.

Tomograms - Commission - Control Contr \$3500. billae86@totc.ne.jp or 990-2507-6528. Foster 1993 Toyota Crown: Automatic, all power, in good condition. Buns great. Asking \$2500.00. Call Jr at 5060-5039-4024 or home after

USD-Score-ucce of International Conference of the Internationa

COPPM etc. \$210000 GBJ.

GODINA etc. \$210000 GBJ.

Floate call 6001574683 or 670574681 or 67057469 or

Water Committee Weet, Tinted Wind own s. Sunnot/Moon-roof, Low mile age 63K KM, very clean, new page 63

Foster - 91 Toyota Carny: Brand new JCl Due Dec 06 New A/C Cold As Icel Asking \$3100 but willing to negotiate. Call Eric & Shelley 646-5977

Autos for Sale 152 - Okinawa

Foster - 91 Toyota Surf 4x4, Gray, power everything, cold AC, sunnod, running boards, brush guards, good overall condition, very clean. Asking \$2,800 obe (willing to negotia a great price), please call 64.6-2.0 94 or e mail Exist§34.6 aol.com FIGURE 40 OF EM BI EICHES/48 40 COST Town Ace Royal Lourgel Shirt Excellent Hoyal Lourgel Shirt Excellent Coldif Power Everything, Moon norf, Auto, 101 Il June 2003 Asking 52 2000 Co. Call Eichi Shirt 48 accom Ficial Figure 52 Copy Col Line 192 Typola Carina, very cold AC, automatic, UCI good until Sept. 05, none good and in good shape. Available biast veeds good shape. Available biast veeds Collection 192 Col Ecotor 192 C

S. Jan S. Jooc CBC, 845-3107

Footer - MUST SELL (PCS in 2 weeks) - 1990 4WD Tryota Trom Ace, Accommendation of the second of th

Kadena 1989 Dalhatsu Van: Great deal, \$500.00 JCI until Dec. 26 2005, seats 8, new CD player, fun to drive, manual transmission. Please call Jackle at 633-7797. Handfimbount, Fessale ciai venezia del Sa-7792. Kadena 1991 beiga Toyota Windom 3.0 (Lexus ES300). JOH WINDOM STATE CONTROL OF THE SAME CANADA STATE CONTROL OF THE SAME CANADA STATE CANADA S

sump guard, Many more 2Year JCI \$3000 O.B.O 2Year JCI \$3000 U.b.O can verification (532-3022(H) / 634-2505(W) / 990-1033-2446 GREAT DEAL!!
Kadena - 1991 Toyota Corse: Blue, Extremely reliable, Great Blue, Extremely reliable, Great Gas, mileage, Engine nas santastie, 2/G good until Jun 2006, Asking \$1150.00 or Best Ofter. This car is in excellent condition and will not let you down. A must see. Call 633-0953 After 5 or leave message.

Madena 1991 Toyota Levin: Black, JCI April 2006. Asking \$400 OBO. Power Windows And Locks. Minimal Body Damage to Passenger Door and Front Left Bumper. Check it out in the Lemon Lot. Interested Call Tiffany (W) 634-9779 (H) 964-7338

Kadena - 1992 Nissan Silvia: Gold, 2 door, gold, JCI is good through September 2005. Cold A/C, minor body damage but runs great \$1,300.00 will take payments. Call 983-7872

mayments. Call 983-7972. Usua Kadena 1982-7972 Coria Judi Garaga Calland Calland Calland Judi Garaga Calland Calland Calland engine nurs great, Intender is clean, sold reliability in the car-cians, sold reliability in the 633-0853 amptime, pisase leave message if no answer. Kadena - 1993 Beige 2-bone. Branch Mark Calland Calland Salland Calland Calland Calland Calland Salland Calland Calland Calland Calland Salland Calland Calland Calland Calland Calland Calland Calland Salland Calland Callan

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assistation of the control of the co

sake payments in 1988 Toyota Chaser Tourer V Pearl Whife, Low KM, Clean, Auto AC, power every-thing, 18' Chrome Rims, Apex Exhaust, Tein Suspension, Bitz Boost Controller, ETC-s Control-ler, ETC, \$13500.00 O.B.O. 633.0047 kadena - 92 Skyline GTS-T: Automatic with boost controller and turbo timer. JCl until April 06. \$3000. Call Ray between 6-9 at 633-6000.

Radena - 2001 Saturn that MCCS was giving away! No-body agreed to pay for the JCI before giving away the car. Lot sale price was \$6000, selling for \$5000 - I do the JCI or \$4500 - you do the JCI. Email me at Christopher.koehnle@kadena.

Autos for Sale

- Okinawa

15000 o has "in the land and th

STABOL OFFICE CAIR SSS-SEAS CONTROL STABLE S

Kadena - Must sell 1993 Suzuki Escudo. 4 wheel drive automat ic, CD player with 6-disc chang-er. JCI due Oct 2006. 1800 obo Great truck must sell due to new baby in the house and need the money. Call Kevin at 633-4364

Laby in the house and need the money. Call Revin at 833-4364 or 080-6866-2075. Kodama - Most Call Review at 834-8464 or 080-6866-2075. Most Call Review at 845-8466 or 080-6866-2075. Most Call Review time, cold AC, LCI due Jan 06. PCSing Jan 446 must sell this woods, 100-000-000 or 100-000 or 100-

Kinser-1990 Toyota 4wd Master Ace Surf. JCI Jan 2007. Clean-Reliable, CD-Tinted windows-PWR everything- \$2,500 OBO. Please call Joel 090-9784-8337 636-3966.

Please call Joel 090-9784-8337 (296-2968). Topacia Mester Keen Str. JCI Apr 2006. Clean Reliable, PWR everyfising - \$1.500 OBO. Please call Joel 090-9784-8337-636-3966. Kinser - 1993 Nissan Silvia Cod AC, Please call Joel Cod AC, Please Call Joel Cod AC, Please Call Joel Cod AC, Please Call Cod AC, Please Call Cod AC, Please Call Cod AC, Please Call Cod Str. September Call Cod Gibert 637-1690(M) glbertpa 87169.

Call CSJ Gilbert 837-1690/W)

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Kinser 11994 Toyota Celica JCI til Sopt 2005 New Ac pump and Timeling bolt bat year, RSSI to had motivated to had motoryceis in 8, 23000 637-1182, or 9907-1851-1353.

Kinser 9 45 System GTS-1 Clinedry Labo Smar, bibt Dober steeling wheel, bibly smod, new rear test, frosty AG, CD player, an offer, Have Spitzers or come by 8 take a book. Call 637-4396 or email jugiliered ignation.

Autos for Sale Okinawa

- 92 Toyota Surf V6 Gold Maroon & Grev: NON 4x4 Maroon 8 Grey: NON SMOKING Matching Maroon Mallard wheels, brush quard, succold fodds of the property succold fodds of the property successful for the property successful for the property filteripuniter, running boards, Cold AC JCI until Jan. 2006. Super Clean. Must sell. \$4000 obs.637-4351 or email

havy, mill of give me a call

med.navy.miii @ 643-7516

622-7561 / HMW 645-5003

Okinawa - 1991 Toyota Town
Ace, Great van for a family, JCI
is good until Mar 06. The cooler
eafer box still works for those
long trips up North or a nice
picnic. I paid a lot more than
should have, but I am asking
0 8 0 . C all
096-0799-2968

\$ 2 0 0 0 0 B U . 090-3790-2968. Okuma/Kadena - 1993 Nissan Primera: 4 doors: Excellent car Primera: 4 doors: Excellent car, runs great and economical, JCI Dec 05, PWIPLPS/Akst/Cold AC, stereo, rims, spoiler, new tres, much more. Regular maintenance done. Call Jose 6 work 6 31 - 18 02 or Cel: 090-9780-5874, asking \$800 Schwab - Must sell ASAPI 1990 Schwab - Must sell ASAPI 1990 Toyota Mark II: Good condition. JCI is good until Sept 2006. Call Anthony Magallanes at 625-3314/2676/2296.

Autos Wanted 156 Kinser, Okinawa - Needed: Free car or van in good condition. Please call Jeanene @ 637-2024.

Motorcyles

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ma - COMBI Stroller Travel stroller folds sulder strap for easy 11 lbs. When open, full lier, cup holders, huge Atsugi/Zama - COSCO Stroller. \$12. Like umbrella stroller, more sturdy. Has canopy and under-seat storage. Used 2x. Perfect for errands and travel, folds in tor errands and trave half, Marion 264-6578

GBO. Joo 633-9232
Kadena, Okinawa Baby Chimattress included for sale, Call
633-9043 or em al I
Illsuman Bhotmail.com
Kadena, Okinawa - Baby goic,
clothes O.3 months socio,
sleepers, outfits, onesies, some
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also getting ready to sell 3-6
month solones to, make me an month clothes too, make me an offer, most are from the states. 632-3118 or e-mail leanamendoza@hotmail.com Kadena, Okinawa - Costco Eddle Bauer edition DOUBLE stroller: Green/cream colores very clean and in excellent very clean and in excession condition. Pictures available upon request. \$100.00 OBO call 633-6743 or email amandasmommie817@yahoo.

Som
Kadena, Okinawa - Double stroller blue and white \$40, single stroller black and white \$30. Call 633-5647 or email ajacks83@yahoo.com for piotures.
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Baby Items

200 Kinser, Okinawa - Umbrella Stroller - Excellent condition Used maybe 3 times \$5. Call 637-4386 or 090 8294 1554 or 637*4386 or 090 8294 1554 or ognal jenn81648 yahoo.com
Misawa - Evenflo discovery infant car seat/carrier with base and surshade. Good condition, little faded from sun. Email Phantom® msa. attmil.ne.jp for pics. \$20 222-7854

Misawa - Graco jungle paws automatic 3 speed swing. Runs no batteries. Brand new. Daugh-ter had outgrown by PCS time and didn't use but a month. Open top with 3 pt buckle and toy bar. Email phanton@msa. atmil.ne.jp for pics. \$30 222-2864. attmil.ne.jp for pics. \$30 222-7854 Misawa - Johnny jumper door frame swing toy. Brand new. \$5 Email Phantom@msa.attmil.ne. jp 222-7854

Bicycles 220

Courtney, Obinava - Black BMX bike for soil: Bought 2 years ago thing. Beat BMX bike for soil: Bought 2 years ago thing. Please leaf No. 8 62-9825 or shady, styles @ hot-mail.com for more details. Kadena - 25° Mensiboys Mountain Bike, New bought in States, never used \$100.00 OBO. Joe 533-9230 email jenn8164@yahoo.com umhai jennis1648/yahoo.com Kinser, Okinawa - PCS Sale All Items kopt inside - Merts 18 speed Hufty Stalker FS, S50 excellent condition, Women's 18 speed Magna \$40 excellent condition. Also have child seat to attach to bike for \$15. Call 637-4386 or email jenn8164@yahoo.com

Book Stores 250

Foster - Chapman Piloting Sea-manship/Small Boat Handling Book and The New Basic Seamanship Safe Boat Handling Book. OBO. 645-3107

So - Field with mighted charm of the control of the services at accessores aromatic com il inscussion of internet Rocket visit Medicine. Services to the Services and Service

Kadena, Okinawa - UMUC Math 012 book 9th ED: Excellent condition. \$40.00 cal 633-6743 or r e m a i I amandasmommie817@yahoo.

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\$10.00 or \$1.00 a 637-3787.

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om@msa.attmil.ne.jp
633-0878 or email
633-0878

Book Stores 250

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Foster - Great Party dress -Jessica McClintock designed, red sequenced bodice with spaghetil straps - red taffeta. Size 5/6. Never worn \$45.00. Call 645-3107

Foster, Okinawa - Karate uni-form (cotton) with white belt size 6 \$15.00 also crange, green and yellow belts \$4.00 each 2 Brownie and 2 Girl Scout uniforms size 6/7 Make an offer. 645-3107.

645-3107.
Kadena, Okinawa · 2 Full bags of women's clothes all name brand, gap, i crew, Tommy limited express DKRY, tank tops, dress shirts, dresses skirts everything you need great for flea market, 50 bucks or best offer contact 652-3118 or email

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Computers



Furniture 510 Furniture

510 Kadena, Okinawa - Queen box spring, frame, bookshelf head-board wicenter mirror, large 9 drawers dresser with floral etch-ed mirrored hutch, 2-drawer end dresser. Good condition fabrica-Courtney-Okinawa - Queen size bed, includes head board, foot board, box springs and mat-tresses. Asking \$175.00. Call book includes hade books for book for books and real b

shelmil® yahoo.com for pic-tures or cell \$53.0433.
Kadona, Okinawa - Soild wood book bud meddum brown in bud meddum brown in bud Sest of girk bodding and cuttars for both bods astra Call Blane at \$53.4734.
Kinser, Okinawa - Large wood honey oak office table with 8 drawers - \$175 obc. White & buddher block calbriet with 3 Call 637-4351 or email mescubation \$40.000. \$2004 asking \$75 cbc pix e-mail me singlemome? 78 thorists, common 72 thorists, common 72 thorists, common 72 thorists, common 74 thorists, common

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Asking \$110. Call 632-0372. Asking \$110. Call 632-0372. Asking a Entertainment Center - Black & Beech wood, Scandinavian design. \$250. For a picture e-mail shelimilli dyahoo.com or call 633-8133.

Paid \$150 at furniture store. Will self for \$75. Call 646-6292.
Foster, Okinawa - Surefit floral derim silpcovers used for a water of the self for a surefit floral derim surefit website as floral derim Email weegesat all acloud or call 646-8955.

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Home Electronics 570

Camp Courtney, Okinawa Yamaha MX-830: Power Amp 170 watt, channel, Yamaha CX-1000 Cortnol Amp, Remote control, Cords, Manuals, Boxes can't lirid these items in stores any longer. \$1,000. OBO for both or oran boy separately. (burglar185@yahoo.com)

Courtney, Okinawa - FINAL FANTASY XI - With PS2 HD, FANTASY XI - With PS2 HD, Strategy guide. Account already registered. Level 30 THF with UBER Item, gear, gil, etc. Asking \$250 More details call Nic & 622-8625 or shady_ styles who the plantage.

Nic ¹⁶ 622-8625 or shady_ styles thotmail.com Courtney, Okinawa - PS2- FI-NAL FANTASY XI: Comes with game, 606 hard drive, manuals, free strategy guide, and great level 30 character. I'm going to miss it but I don't have enough time \$150 please call Nic ¹⁶ 622-9625 or shady_styles thot-

mail.com
Courtney, Okinawa PS2
GAMESI 18+ Games for sell for only \$250!! Brand new, new and old games! Please consider! I need money! E-mail or call for more details. Ask for Nic & 822-8825 or shady_styles@hot-mail.com

Home Electronics 570

360

Foster, Okinawa - 32 inch. Sony Trinitron For Sale: In good condition. Asking \$400.00 dol-lars or best ofter, purchasing a bigger television. Call Kim or Leater at 666:2163 or e-mail ddies@aol.com.

som and UebJ. Piesse call 646-2094 or email Enclish Badcoom of the County of the Count

Kadena - 65 in HD Projection JVC TV. Perfect condition. Sells for 2000.00 @ BX. Need room. \$1400.00 Call Bill @ 633-0699. Kadena, Okinawa - Modded Kadena, Okinawa - Modded PS2 with 2 controllers, 3 memory cards, DVD with remote, vertical stand and 30 games. \$400 or will trade for a modified x-box. Call Nell 633-5147 or

shellmil@yahoo.com tures and detailed des Osan, Korea - RUSSIAN SAT-ELLITE DISH & RECEIVER: One time payment of \$500 About 10 Russian speaking channels. Call Jim 018-870-1089 or 031-667-6026 Seoul Korea - 16 channel mixer. Good for live sound. Unpow-ered. \$250.00 Seoul Korea 011 730 4716 Seoul/Yongsan - For sale Pana-sonic 27" TV, DVD-Video, and VCR combination in excellent condition, Manual and original box all for \$450, please call Glen @02-749-7824.

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Kadema, Olimana - 104 Amerbyst Ring with 104 matching of the part of the matching of the part of the matching of the part of

Okinawa - Purebred buildog pupples for sale. About two months old. Female \$2,000, male \$2,500. 090-9077-2779 Pet Accessories Foster, Okinawa - Cat Accesso-ries. Very cute bed grey with bet control of the control of the original of the control of the original of the control of the segment of the control of the segment of the control of the year. All in very good condition \$40. Please call Drena \$46.4.2.3.4 or email madspat@konnect.net

Foster, Okinawa - 1 Sleeping Bag \$4.00 call 645-3107.

Kinser, Okinawa - PCS Salel Have tons of things to get rid of. Sheets, dishes, figurines, clothes, shoes, cleaning sup-plies, vacuum, miscellaneous items. Flea Marketers haven. Name a price and come get it all. Call 637-4386 or jenn81648/yahoo.com

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Kadena-PTGH 7 morth old
homas for first. Gest abony with
homas for first desired
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homas firs Foster - 14ft. TRAMPOLINE with safety net: Purchased less than 6 months ago. Moving to the towers and can't keep it. Paid \$400 asking \$260. Call 64 6-69 92 or e mail Kadena, Okinawa - LH king cobra 380 SS driver. Grafalloy blue shaft winn v17 grip, great shape \$175 OBO Have picture if needed. Call 633-3280 or email newyork@oasis.mediatti.net.

Kinser, Okinawa - 160 lb weight set includes 6'press bar. 2-25#.

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Yokota - Wanted - Electric Treadmill that inclines and has safety key. Call 227-3302 or email DanRTodd@aol.com

AMH- complete set, new and same as Zama Golf shop for S399. Check them out and pay only \$2.75. Call 263-7421 or e-mail jimboz1234@hotmail.com for details. Video 1020

the classic 70's show 15000 Times', 88 episodes total paid \$220.00, but asking for \$100.00 brand new condition. PCSing s o o n . E m a i i : dianisha14@yahoo.com

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Atsugi - Sony Cybershot F828 8MP camera. Only 4 months old. Works perfectly, just want to upgrade to DSLR. Comes with all OEM items. Will include

all OEM Items. Will include 32MB memory slok. \$700. Ask for Kovin at 264-6390 before 7pm JST Kadena, Okinawa JVC GC CX3 digital camera 3.3-meg-quotes AND JVC GV-SP2U photo printer - Prints very hoto 4x5 pictures. Both work very well. Bough now ones. Will sell both for \$175. Call Daria 53-0557 or 050-9782-6751

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Foster, Okinawa - 82x144 Black out curtains (2) \$10.00 each. Call 645-3107 madspat@konnect.net
Kinser, Okinawa - 20-gallon fish
tank come with heater, bubble
wand, fifters and other accessories. All you need is the rocks
and the fish \$50 obo. Call
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jenn8164@yahoo.com

Humpherys - New Refrige Double door with Ice Mal 500.00. New Gas S \$250.00. Large Ko: Washer-\$200.00. Large Sec al Sofa and other house items. Make a deal on items. Call Daryl or Juni

Kadena, Okinawa - Bar Stools: 3 Arrow back swivel tops from JC Penny, Natural color, and 30 inches high. My husband bought in June 04 and I want bamboo ones instead. Perfect condition

country church, but we have visited churches of similar de-nominations. Email us at wrightdp@oasis.mediatri.net

Yokota, Japan - Cordless drill, \$25; 5-piece table set, glass top, \$50; 3 VTECH 2.4 GHZ cord-less phones, \$160. Call 227-2425.

Yokota, Japan - Wineless PS2 controller pair, \$60; 50 DVD and Media, \$25; 2.4GHZ computer, \$550; 633 MHZ computer, \$225; 333MHZ computer, \$150; 20 inch Panasonic TV, \$100; Sony VIAO laptop, 533MHZ with case, \$535; Kenwood CD changer, \$100 Call \$277.24275

Courtney, Okinawa - Pog Perego JCHM DEERE GATOR Elec-tric Truck 2gol 2,554MPH) and reverse too. New wirten har-court of the court of

SCOREBOARD

AFN TV & Radio

AFN-Sports, 2:30 a.m.-NBA: Houston at Dal-AFN-Atlantic, 9 a.m.-College basketball: Duke at North Carolina State. AFN-Sports, AFN radio Korea, 10 a.m.-NBA: AFN-Atlantic, 11 a.m.-College basketball: warquette at Memphis.

AFN-Sports, 12:30 p.m.-NBA: Cleveland at
.A. Lakers.

AFN-Sports, 3 p.m.-NBA; Inside the NBA. AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.-Golf: PGA Sony Open. first round (did).

AFN-Sports, 8:30 p.m.-College basketball:
Duke at North Carolina State (did).

AFN-Sports, 10:30 p.m.-College basketball:
UCLA at Arizona State (did).

Saturday

AFN-Sports, 3:30 a.m.-College basketball: Oregon State at Washington State (dld). AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-Golf: PGA Sony Open, second round. AFN-Atlantic, 9:30 a.m.-NBA: Dallas at San Antonio. AFN-Pacific/Korea, 10 a.m.-NBA: Orlando t Detroit. AFN-Sports, 12:30 p.m.-NBA: Minnesota at AFN-Sports, 9:30 p.m.-NBA: Minnesota at tenver (dld),

All Times Japan and Korea Standard Time; did indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

College basketball

AP Men's Top 25 fared

Tuesday

1. Illinois (16-0) did not play. Next: vs. Penn tate, Wednexday State, Wednesday. 2. Kansas (11-0) did not play. Next: at Iowa State. Wednesday. 2. Kennass (11-0) (sid not play, Next at lowa 3. Aborth Carolina (11-1) (sid not play, Next vs. No. 8 Georgia Tech, Wednesday, vs. 1 vs. No. 8 Georgia Tech, Wednesday, Next at North Straight (11-0) (sid not play, Next at No. 3 North Carolina, Wednesday, North Carolina, Wednesday, North (11-1) (sid not play, Next at No. 3 North Carolina, Wednesday, North (11-1) (sid not play, Next at 1.0 Texas (12-2) (sid not play, Next at 1.1 Migissippo) (sid not play, Next at Next vs. Regions, Stating), Next at Fernicise, Wednesday, Next at Fernicise, Wednesday 12. Connecticut (9-3) did not play. Next: vs. Rutgers, Saturday.
13. Boston College (13-0) did not play. Next: at West Virginia, Sunday.
14. Washington (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. Oregon, Thursday.
15. Michigan State (10-2) did not play. Next: at Wisconsin, Sunday. Next: at Wisconsin, Sunday. 16. Gonzaga (11-3) did not play. Next: vs. Loyola Marrymount, Thursday. 17. Arizona (12-3) did not play. Next: vs. Southern California, Thursday. 18. Cincinnati (13-1) did not play. Next: at East Carolina, Wednesday.

19. Louisville (13-3) beat Southern Missis sippi 107-62. Next: at No. 18 Cincinnati, Satur day. 20. Pittsburgh (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. Seton Hall. Saturday.

nesota, Saturday. 25. Oklahoma (12-2) did not play. Next: at Raylor Saturday Tuesday's men's scores

Secton Hall, Saturday.

21. George Washington (10-2) did not play.

Next: at St. Boaneventure, Wednesday.

22. Marquette (13-1) did not play. Next: at Memphis, Thursday.

23. Alabama (13-3) beat Arkansas 64-61.

Next: vs. No. 11 Mississippl State, Tuesday.

24. lowa (12-3) did not play. Next: vs. Minnesota, Saturday.

Husbudy S meln s Scores

EAST
Albright SS, Widener S Mesleyard
Ambers 169, Wesleyard conn. 44
Ambers 169, Wesleyard conn. 44
Bloomfield SI, Post, Conn. 74
Bloomfield SI, Post, Conn. 75
C W, Pogt SZ, NY, Tech TS
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C C W, Pogt SZ, NY, Tech TS
C C R SERVEY ST, Thiel SS
Clark U, 69, Balson 61
Connecticut Coll 68, Johnson & Wales, R.I. 67 Connecticut Coll. 68, Johnson & Wales, Cortland St. 69, Buffalo St. 60 E. Connecticut 68, Mass.-Dartmouth 67 E. Nazarene 72, Anna Maria 69 Elizabethtown 90, Juniata 72 Endicott 68, Bates 65 Endicott 68, Bates 65 Franklin & Marshall 103, Muhlenberg 79 Franklin Pierce 57, St. Anselm 48 Geneva 107, Point Park 94 Franklin Pierce 57, 5£. Anselm 48 Geneva 107, Point Park 34 Geneva 107, Point Park 34 Getty-Suburg 78, Washington, Md. 62 Haverford 22, Johns Holpkins 9, Hobart 74, Hamilton 63 Hobart 74, Hamilton 63 Hobart 74, Hamilton 63 Holloy 64, Queens, N.Y. 83 Molloy 64, Queens, N.Y. 83 Molloy 64, Queens, N.Y. 83 Molloy 64, Queens, N.Y. 80 Plattsburgh 75, Oswego 95 L6 Polstdam 73, Ulfica Tech 55 Oswego 170, 100 Polstdam 73, Ulfica Tech 55 Molloy 64, Queen 175, May 180 Robel 180 Molloy 64, Queen 175, May 180 Molloy 64, Queen 175, Molloy 64, Molloy 64, Molloy 64, Molloy 64, Mo Ramapo 75, William Paterson 63 Rhode Island Coll. 70, S. Maine 58 S. New Hampshire 87, St. Michael's 78 St. Rose 77, S. Connecticut 70 St. Vincent 83, Seton Hill 70 Stonehill 85, Assumption 70 stoneniii 85, Assumption 70 Swarthmore 65, McDaniel 62 Union, N.Y. 80, Skidmore 75 Ursinus 90, Dickinson 68 Utica 70, Oneonta 60 Villanova 83, Providence 78, nce 78. 01 Villanova 83, Providence 78, OT W. Connecticut 73, Keene St. 63 Wheaton, Mass. 81, Springfield 79 Worcester St. 73, Fitchburg St. 65 SOUTH Brescia 59, Campbellsville 57

ustvisson 66. Appalachlan St. 63 Flagler 103, Edward Waters 85 Florida Gulf Coast 67, Lynn 65 Georgetown, Ky. 124, Mlami (öhio)-Mid 56 Jacksonville 82, Florida Atlantic 81 Kentucky Christian 97, Circleville Bible 67 Kentucky St. 75, Fort Valley St. 56 Lambuth 70, Trevecca Nazarene 69 Rentisch St. 25, Fort Valley \$3, 55 obLambuth 77, Teresco Nazierne GeMarshall 56, West Virginia 55
Marshall 56, West Virginia 55
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Lambuth 56, Sam Houston 55, 54
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SI. Francis, Ind. 50, Bethel, Ind. 79
SI. Francis, Ind. 50, Bethel, Ind. 79
SI. Norbert 84, Lawrence 76
Walsh 82, Malone 76
Wis. Spreen Bay 81, Cleveland St. 76
Wis. Spreen Bay 81, Cleveland St. 76
Wis. Stout 74, Wis. Oshkosh 65
Wis. Stout 7

FAR WEST BYU 110, Montana St. Fillings 70 St. Mary's, Cal. 59, Air Force 58 Utah Valley St. 73, Texas-Pan American 51 EXHIBITION Minn-Duluth 80, Finlandia 69 AP Women's Top 25 fared

Tuesday Duke (15-1) did not play, Next; at Virgin ia, Friday.

2. Baylor (12-1) did not play. Next: at Ne-braska, Wednesday.

3. LSU (14-1) did not play. Next: at Florida, 3. LSU (14-1) did not play. NEAL at 1988-18.

Nurdeys (11-2) beat Pittsburgh 68-41.

Next vs. Georgetown, Thursday.

5. Ohio State (15-2) beat Michigan 84-56.

Next: vs. No. 21 lowa, Thursday.

6. Stanford (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. Cal-

6. Stanford (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. Cal-ifornia. Thursday. J. did not play. Next: vs. Cal-ifornia. Thursday. J. did not play. Next: vs. No. 16 Connecticut, Wednesday. 8. Tennessee (10-3) did not play. Next: vs. No. 16 Connecticut, Wednesday.

normal, Purposely. 123, did not play, Nesttus. No. 15 Connection: Wednesday, Wedne

s state, rriday. 20. Purdue (10-4) did not play. Next: vs. No. na. Partice (16-4) did not play. Next: vs. No. 11. Minnesota, Thursday. 21. Iowa (12-2) did not play. Next: at No. 5 voice (12-2). Very (12-2). Very

Tuesday's women's scores

EAST

American International 63, Bentley 58 American International 63, Bentley 58
Amherst 69, W. New England 43
Bates 74, Maine-Farmington 59
Bridgewater, Mass. 73, Westfield St. 38
Cent. Connecticut St. 62, Monmouth, N.J. 55
Coast Guard 66, Babson 57
Cortland St. 61, Buffalo St. 58 Cortland St. 61, Buffalo St. 88
Dickinson 66, Ursinus 63
Dominican, N.Y. 73, Georgian Court 57
Franklin & Marshall 57, Swarthmore 45
Franklin Pierce 54, St. Anselm 52
Geneva 64, Point Park 46
Gettysburg 74, Washington, Md. 47
Hbaca 8E Elnika 63

2 62

Keene St. 58, W. Connecticut 47 Marshall 82, West Virginia 76 Mass.-Boston 85, Plymouth 5t. 70 Mass.-Lowell 61, LeMoyne 59 McDaniel 80, Bryn Mawr 54 Merrimack 71, Bryant 61 Merrimack 71, Bryant 61, Molloy 62, Queens Coll. 61 Mount Holyoke 57, Clark U. 51, U. 5 Tech 71, C.W. Post 57 N.Y. Tech 71, C.W. Post 57 N.Y. Behavior 60, Maine 57 New Paltz 72, Vassar 64, 30T Oswego 5t. 65, Plattsburgh 34 Post, Conn. 56, Bloomfield 48 Kooyong Classic

Wednesday At Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club Melbourne, Australia Purse: Exhibition Surface: Hard-Outdoor First Round Quinnipiac 76, St. Francis, Pa. 69 Rochester 64, Rochester Tech 38 Rutgers 68, Pittsburgh 41 S. Connecticut 55, St. Rose 47 S: Connecticut 55: 55' hase at 5. Maine 61, Rhote le Island Coll. 51 5. New Hampshire 64, St. Michael's 50 5ake Reginar 12, Curry 64 1. Sake Reginar 12, Curry 64 1. Simmons 64, Werthoroff Irech 44 Union, NY, 44, Siddmore 23 Ulica 102, 5 Vermont 45 Vermont 45

Williams 83, Han

Williams 83, Hamilton 65
SOUTH
Bryan 69, Milligh 98
E. Mennonite 67, Hollins 59
Emory 2 Henry 85, Nevrett 8
Fayetteville St. 71, Virginia Union 59
Fort Valley St. 98, Kentucky St. 14
Longwood 69, Jacksonville St. 64
Pikeville 63, S. Virginia 43
Roanoke 66, Washington & Lee 54
Shay 112, Elizabeth City 55, Comps. More 59 mas More 63

Shaw 112, Elizabeth City St. 62 Washington & Jefferson 66, Th MIDWEST Buena Vista 84, Wartburg 78 Capital 58, Heidelberg 48 Cedarville 86, Urbana 77 Concordia, Wis. 83, Alverno 47 Doane 87, Dana 50 Concordia, Wist. St., Alverno 47 Doane 87, Dans John, Wis 60 Doane 87, Dans John, Wis 60 Euroba 66, Dominican, III. 64 Ferris St. 79, Hillsdale 67 Griffs 12, Pallislade 67 N. Illinois 63, 101600 00 Ohio 80, Akron 69 Ohio St. 84, Michigan 56 Olivet Nazarene 105, Purdue-Calumet 43 ornio St. 84, Micnigan S6 Olivet Nazarene 105, Purdue-C Peru St. 84, Park 80 Rio Grande 80, Wilberforce 71 Ripon 79, Carroll, Wis, 51 Rockford 88, Concordia, III. 55 SE Missouri 87, E. Illinois 70 Shawnee St. 84, Ohio Dominica Simpson Leus 57, 1977

Shawnee St. 84, Ohlo Domínican Simpson, Iowa 57, Loras 56 W. Illinois 58, UMKC 40 Walsh 75, Malone 64 Wheaton, Ill. 73, North Central 49 SOUTHWEST S. Utah 49, Oral Roberts 43 Texas-Pan American 58, Prairie View 55 FAR WEST Oregon Tech 86, S. Oregon 62 Vanguard 93, Westmont 78

Tennis

Medibank International

Wednesday
At The Sydney International Tennis Centre
Sydney, Australia
Purse: ATP, \$419,000 (Intl.);
WTA, \$885,000 (Tier II)
Surface Hard-Australia

Second Round
Lleyton Hewitt (1), Australia, def. Arnaud
Clement, France, 6-2, 6-4,
Taylor Dent (8), United States, def. Mardy Fish, United States, 7-6 (4), 6-1. Ivo Minar, Czech Republic, def. Fernando Verdasco, Spain, 6-1, 6-2. Andrei Pavel (4), Romania, def. Jarkko Ni-

Andrei Paveil (d.), Romania, def. Jarkko Ni-eminen, Finland, 6-4, 7-6(3).
Michael Llodra, France, def. Feliciano Lopez (S), Spain, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (Achim Johans-Max, Mirryi, Belarus, def. Joachim Johans-Radek Stepanek, Czech Republic, def. Igor Andreev, Russia, 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-2.
Thomas Johansson (7), Sweden, def. Wayne Arthurs, Australia, 7-6 (4), 6-1.

Women
Second Round
Nadia Petrova (5), Russia, def. Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, 6-0, 6-2.
Eiena Dementieva (3), Russia, def. Eleni Daniillidou, Greece, 6-3, 3-6, 6-2.

Patty Schnyder (7), Switzerland, def. Magdalena Maleeva, Bulgaria, 6-4, 6-2. Samarnha Stosur, Australia, def. Tatlana Alicia Mollik (6), Australia, def. Jelena Jank-ovic, Serbia-Montenergo, 6-3, 6-4. Fabiola Zuluaga, Colombia, def. Vera Zvonareva (4), Russia, 7-6 (7), 6-3.

Andre Agassi, United States, def. Nicolas Massu, Chile, 6-1, 7-6 (4). Roger Federer, Switzerland, def. Gaston German, Britain, def. David Nalbandi-an, Argentina, 6-1, 7-5. Andy Roddick, United States, def. Ivan Lju-bick

Heineken Open

Heineken Open

Wednesday

Wednesday

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And Baud, Tem 2-allend

Purses 26-2600 (Intl. sories)

Surface

Surf Fernando Gonzalez (5), Chile, def. Mariano Zabaleta, Argentina, 6-3, 6-4.

Moorilla International

Wednesday
At The Domain Tennis Centre
Hobart, Australia
Purse: \$110,000 (Tier Y)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Ouarterfinals
Woulkali Singles Quarterfinals
Zheng Jie, China, def. Klara Koukalova (8), Czech Republic, 4-6, 7-6 (2), 6-2, fiveta Benesova (3), Czech Republic, def. Nicole Valdisova, Czech Republic, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.

b-4, Li Na, China, def. Marta Domachowska, Po-land, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1. Gisela Dulko (2), Argentina, def. Kveta Pe-schke, Czech Republic, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Canberra Women's Classic

Wednesday At The National Sports Club Canberra, Australia Purse: \$110,000 (Tier V) Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Surface Reard-Outdoor Singles Scoond Round Tuliana Fedals Urraine, der Tamarine Ta-nasuparn, Thaila Urraine, der Tamarine Ta-Melinda Czirik, Hungary, def. Anna Smash-rova (2), Israel, E-6, 2-6, 1-1. Silvia Farina Elia (1), Italy, def. Anna-Lena Lindasy Lee-Waters, Unifed States, def. Aniko Kapros, Hungary, 1-6, 7-5, 6-3. Marron Sartiol (4), France, der, Michaelia Krajicek, Netherlands, 6-4, 6-4. Ana Ivanovic, Serbia-Montenegro, def. Evie Dominikovic, Australia, 5-7, 6-3, 6-4.

High school

Japan boys basketball Wednesday's summaries Wednesday's summaries
Yokota 75, St. Mau: International 36
At Yokohama, Japan
Quarter scores not available. Leading scorers-Yokota. Shawn Novak 14, Cameron Coper 14, Calveon Thomas 12, Leading rebounders-Yokota, Calveon Thomas 12, Shamarr

2 C. Kinnick 74, USS Vincennes 50 kt Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan k 20 19 17 18-74 ines 10 17 9 14-50 At Yok Kinnick Vincennes

illors based aboard the Ticongeroga-crass ided missile cruiser. Japan girls basketball Tuesday's summaries Yokota 42, Christian Academy In Japan 31 At Yokota Air Base, Japan 2 2 11 16-31 3 17 10 12-42

Leading scorers-Yokota, Andrevia Thomas 17; CAJ, Kelsey Masuda 10. Zama American 62, St. Maur Int'l 44 At Yokohama, Japan Zama At Yokohama, Japan 16 15 11 20-62 St. Maur 16 15 11 20-62 St. Maur Leading scorers-Zama, Tiffani Wright 28, Ellegisti 12, 5 3 Maur. Shawan Ureyama Wright 17, Kate Shicks 10. Noteworthy-Freshman point guard Roxanne Delgado impressed in her first start, with five rebounds,

man point gone pressed in her first start, with nive seven assists and six steals. Seisen Int'l 50, Yokohama Int'l 16 At Tokyo 2 10 4 Seisen 15 6 17 12-50 Leading scorers-Seisen, Yuri Koshibe 16 Rei Ryan 11, Lishomwa 10; YIS, Takekawa 12

Skiing

Women's World Cup

Wednesday At Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy Super-G 1. Renate Goetschi, Austria, 1 minute, 15.57

seconds. 2. Ania Paerson, Sweden, 1:15.79 2. Anja Paerson, Sweden, 1:15.79.
3. Martina Ert, Germany, 1:16.02.
4. Lindsey Kildow, United States, 1:16.09.
4. Lindsey Kildow, United States, 1:16.09.
6. Lislabeth Gorger, Austria, 1:16.20.
6. Lislabeth Gorger, Austria, 1:16.30.
8. Andrea Fischbacher, Austria, 1:16.30.
8. Andrea Fischbacher, Austria, 1:16.30.
10. Alexandra Meissnitzer, Austria, 1:16.42.
Overall World Cup Standpre, 1:16.42.
Overall World Cup Standpre, 1:16.42.
1. Tanja paerson, Sweden, 659.
1. Janica Kostelic, Croatia, 633.
1. Janica Kostelic, Croatia, 633.
4. Michaela Dormiester, Austria, 549.

4 Michaela Dorfmeister, Austria, 549.
5 Renate Gesteshi, Austria, 158.
6. Lindsey Kildow, United States, 485.
7. Hilde Geng, Germany, 455.
7. Hilde Geng, Germany, 456.
7. Hilde Geng, Germany, 150.
7. Hilde Geng, Germany, 150.
7. Anja Pareson, Sweden, 154.
7. Anja Pareson, Sweden, 154.

Deals

Tuesday's transactions

RASERALI American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Agreed to terms
vith RHP James Baldwin on a minor league

ontract. CLEVELAND INDIANS—Agreed to terms vith OF Juan Gonzalez on a minor league ontract.

NEW YORK YANKEES—Agreed to terms
with I HP Randy Johnson on a two-year conith LHP Randy Johnson on a two-year con-act extension through 2007. TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Agreed to terms ith LHP Scott Schoeneweis on a two-year

ontract.
National League
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Traded LHP ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Traded LHP Randy Johnson to the New York Yankees for RHP Javier Vasquez, LHP Brad Halsey, C Dion-er Navarro and \$9 million. Traded Navarro, RHP William Juarez, RHP Danny Muegge and RHP Beltran Perez to Los Angeles for OF Shawn Green and \$10 million,
HOUSTON ASTROS—Agreed to terms with
3B Mike Lamb on a one-year contract.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Agreed to terms
with RHP Derek Lowe on a four-year contract. act.
NEW YORK METS-Agreed to terms with Carlos Beltran on a seven-year contract contract.

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Agreed to terms
with RHP Terry Adams on a one-year con-

PURLAGE AND THE AND TH

Rem Optimers, to winston laylor and DE Mat-NEW YORK JETS. Signed Ft Matt Chila, QB Kevin Eakin, DB D.J. Johnson, DE Radel Los Control of the Control of the Control Optimer Services of the Control of the Control SEATHE SEAMAWAS—Fired Mark Michaels, Special copies and the Control Control of the Control of

assistant coach.

COLORADO STATE—Announced sophomore men's basketball G Dwight Boatner left the team for personal reasons.

DUKE—Suspended junior women's basketball G Lindsey Harding for the remainder of the season for a violation of team rules. KENTUCKY-Announced freshman men's asketball G Joe Crawford left school and

will transfer.

Saint Joseph's—Added F Jordan Fowler to the men's basketball team.

SYRACUSE—Named Greg Robinson football coach.

TENNESSEE STATE—Named James Webster football coach.

TANK MCNAMARA



"NBA THUGGBALL IS THE ONE-ON-ONE BASKETBALL VIDEO GAME HIGHLIGHTING THE BLING BLING MIGHLIGHTING THE DUINE DUINE DUINE THE STARS:
CHROMED-OUT CARS, ICE, LAPIES,
TATTS, PRIVATE JETS, KILLER
CROSSOVERS, DROPPING PIMES
AND DUNKING IN YOUR GRILL."

"NEW FOR 2005! PACERZ-PISTONZ BARBED-WIRED-CAGE DEATH-CHALLENGE REMATCH!" Var Co



Oklahoma State's Sutton ties mentor Iba with win No. 767

STILLWATER, Okla. - Even after a milestone victory. Eddie Sutton was preaching defense. Henry Iba taught him well.

Sutton tied his mentor for seventh in career coaching victories when No. 6 Oklahoma State beat Missouri 78-68 on Tuesday night.

"The basis of the way he taught the game was defense is a stabiliz-Sutton said of Iba. "It's a thing that on a night when you're not shooting the ball well, if your defense will hold up, maybe there will come a time when you get some momentum.

"If you don't play defense, all of a sudden you get blown away early and you're out of the game.

Joey Graham scored a season-high 27 points and John Lucas added 18 for the Cowboys (12-1, 2-0 Big 12), who held Missouri to 38 percent shooting from the field.

Sutton improved to 767-293 in his career, which included stints at Creighton, Arkansas and Kentucky before he returned to his alma mater in 1990.

"Mr. Iba would be thrilled be-



teacher, and I think the greatest credit that can be given is

body that you coached or taught does well," Sutton said. In all 12 of its wins this season,

Oklahoma State has held its opponent under 50 percent shooting. It's a staple of Sutton's teams that can be traced back to the 1950s when he played and later coached under Iba.

The Cowboys held Missouri without a field goal for 5 minutes and broke open a close game with a late 14-4 run

Terrence Crawford started it with two free throws and added a runout, two-handed jam. Stephen Graham followed with a reverse layup to put Oklahoma State crowd could sense Sutton's land-

Stephen Graham added four free throws, Lucas and Joey Graham each made jumpers and the Cowboys were suddenly ahead 77-65 and easily in control. Miswas 0-for-8 during the

stretch and scored its only four points on free throws by Linas Kleiza.

Kleiza scored 24 points to lead the Tigers, who were 8-for-21 from three-point range. Kleiza was 13-for-13 from the foul line and fought off endless boos following an early technical foul. His tough inside play helped cause two Oklahoma State defenders to

Sutton will try to pass Iba on Saturday when the Cowboys play Iowa State. Iba was 767-338 in 41 seasons. He spent 36 years in Stillwater and won the school's only two NCAA championships in 1945 and 1946 when it was still known as Oklahoma A&M. He died in 1993.

No. 19 Louisville 107. Southem Miss 62: Francisco Garcia had 25 points to lead the Cardinals (13-3 2-1 Conference USA) who led by as many as 48 points and shot 57 percent from the Rashaad Carruth had a ca-

reer-high 25 points for the Golden Eagles (9-6, 0-3) in the worst home loss in school history. Southern Mississippi has lost



Oklahoma State coach Eddie Sutton, above, tied his mentor Henry Iba for seventh place on the career victories list Tuesday night after the Cowboys defeated Missouri 78-68 in Stillwater. Okla.

four straight.

No. 23 Alabama 64, Arkansas 61: Earnest Shelton scored 18 points and Kennedy Winston had ine of his 13 in the second half to lead the Crimson Tide (13-3, 2-1 Southern Conference) to the road win. Winston made one of two free throws with 9.8 seconds left to give Alabama a three-point lead and Eric Ferguson missed an open three-pointer with 2 sec-onds left that could have tied the game.

Ronnie Brewer had 15 points for the Razorbacks (13-3, 1-2).

St. Mary's holds off Air Force

The Associated Press

MORAGA, Calif. - Brett Collins scored 15 points and Saint Mary's overcame a noor shooting second half Tuesday night to hold off Air Force and win its ninth straight game, 59-58.

The Gaels (15-4), coming off a hig victory over Gonzaga last Saturday, never trailed after scoring the game's first nine points.

But they almost blew a 13-point halftime lead, scoring only 19 noints in the second half Saint Mary's shot only 5-for-14 from the field and 9-for-18 from the foul line after halftime.

Jason Walberg missed two free throws with 24.5 seconds remaining, giving Air Force (10-6) a chance to win. Matt McGraw missed a jumper, but Nick Welch retained the ball for Air Force in a wild scramble for the ball. He launched a last-second air ball attempt while falling near the free-throw line as time ran out.

Saint Mary's has matched the second longest winning streak in school history and has won a school record 13 consecutive nonconference games. The victory was also Saint Mary's 12th straight at home to match a school record

Paul Marginey added 13 points for the Gaels and E.J. Rowland scored 10.

McGraw led Air Force with 17 points. Tim Keller and Antoine

Hood chipped in 12 apiece. Jonathan Sanders got the Gaels off to a quick start, scoring four points after a pair of steals before Air Force even attempted a shot. Saint Mary's had seven points be-

fore Air Force got its first shot. Air Force held Saint Mary's without a shot attempt for more than five minutes to begin the second half and blocked the first two Saint Mary's shot attempts.

The Gaels went 4-0 this season against teams from the Mountain West, also beating UNLV, BYU and San Diego State.

Deacons hand Terps another lopsided loss

By JENNA FRYER The Associated Press

WINSTON-SALEM. N.C. Just in case Wake Forest forgot about its one-point loss to Maryland in last year's ACC tournament, coach Skip Prosser made his team watch the final 3 minutes of the opening-round defeat

Then he sent the fourth-ranked Demon Deacons out to avenge the loss

They did, behind 25 points from Justin Gray in an 81-66 victory over the Terrapins on Tuesday night. "Before the game, I didn't see

myself playing this well," Gray "But the last time we played, I

didn't play well and they beat us. So I knew I had to step it up."

Grav, who is playing with a strained wrist that requires him to wear a bulky brace when he is not playing, made a season-high six three-pointers while helping the Demon Deacons (14-1, 3-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) avenge their 87-86 loss to Maryland in the first round of the ACC tournament last season.

Gray was off in that loss, scoring just 14 points

There was no chance of that in this meeting since Gray is playing the best basketball of his career He had 31 points in a win over Clemson on Saturday, and has 55 points and 11 three-pointers in the past two games.

"Justin has never seen a shot he doesn't like," said guard Chris Paul who added 14 points Whenever he throws it up. I think he has a 95 to 99 percent chance of it going in. And no doubt he wanted to make up for the Maryland game last year, so he was trying to make everything

Eric Williams had 12 points and 10 rebounds, Jamaal Levy had 11 points and Vytas Danelius finished with 10 rebounds for Wake Forest.

Maryland (9-4, 1-2) played poorly in its second straight lopsided loss: The Terrapins were coming off a 36-point loss at No. 3 North Carolina on Saturday.

"We're struggling right We're just not playing with the in-tensity level needed for us to be successful," Maryland coach Gary Williams said.

"We have to improve. It's pretty obvious we have to improve. The Terps started the game

with leading scorer John Gilchrist on the bench for missing an academic assignment. Gilchrist played just 9 minutes, sitting for almost the entire second half and finishing with two points on 1-for-2 shooting. Williams said Gilchrist was

bothered by a bad back and wrist. prised to get pulled in the second half. "I definitely assumed I was

going back in the game," he said. "I was like 'Hey, I'm not the type of guy that really cares.' It didn't even matter, really. It was a coach's decision to fight back without me

Don King files \$2.5 billion defamation suit over ESPN segment football coaches delayed a vote Six coaches dropped Cal below place until all the surveys had

NEW YORK - Boxing promoter Don King filed a \$2.5 billion defamation suit Wednesday, claiming he was portrayed in a false light on an ESPN "Sports-Century" segment aired last May.

The suit, filed in state court in Broward County, Fla., names ESPN, ABC Cable Networks, Advocate Communications and Disnev as defendants, claiming King was falsely portrayed as "a con artist and a thug." "This case is one of the worst

examples of reckless broadcast journalism and blatant disregard for the truth," lawyer Willie Gary said The flamboyant promoter, who

Sports briefs much of his career in court

ed fighters from Muhammad Ali to Tyson, Mike has spent

He settled a lawsuit for \$7.5 million with former middleweight champion Terry Norris in late 2003 and still faces a \$100 million lawsuit filed against him by Tyson.

King also has beaten federal charges, including tax evasion and fraud

Coaches discuss changes in football poll

LOUISVILLE, Kv. - College

Wednesday on whether to release the ballots for their weekly poll, though some made it clear they strongly oppose the idea. "I don't see how that could be

anything but a negative," Tennes-see coach Phillip Fulmer said. Just over half of the nation's Di-

vision I-A coaches - 59 of 117 attended the final day of the American Football Coaches Association's annual convention in

AFCA executive director Grant Teaff led a forum on the ESPN/USA Today poll, which came under fire after Texas overtook California for the last at-large bid in the Bowl Championship Series.

No. 6 in the final poll, prompting Pac-10 Commissioner Tom Hansen and Cal coach Jeff Tedford to ask the 61 coaches who voted to disclose their ballots. The AFCA voted down the request. On Wednesday, Teaff handed

out a three-question survey to the coaches in attendance. The survey asked if the coaches would: release their ballots every

week; ■ release their ballots at the end of the season only;

ballots were ever publicly re-

Teaff said the rest of the coaches would receive surveys by mail. An official vote would not take been received, Teaff said.

Austrian skier Knauss suspended for steroid use

WENGEN, Switzerland - Austrian skier Hans Knauss was temporarily suspended Wednesday for steroid use and could be banned for two years.

Knauss, 33, tested positive for nandrolone following his fourth-place finish in a World Cup downhill in Lake Louise, Alberta, on Nov. 27. His backup sample also was

positive, the international federa-Under international rules, ath-

letes found guilty of using steroids face a two-year ban.

Miami showing ACC it can play

BY STEVEN WINE The Associated Press

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — The pep band blared brassy tunes, the student section rode the officials and the public address announcer bellowed after each basket, creat-

ing a din that reached the cheap seats.
For the Atlantic Coast Conference, it was routine stuff. But for the Miami Hurricanes, it was altogether different.

The ACC newcomers won their league home opener Sunday, beating North Carolina State 67-66. The victory was especially sweet because it came before a sellout crowd — the first in two years for the Hurricanes.

"When the fans are screaming and hollering, supporting you like that, that's what you want," said Robert Hite, Miami's leading scorer. "Hopefully, we can continue to get that throughout the season."

Hite and his teammates are accustomed to playing before mostly empty seats at their on-campus convocation center. Last season, their last in the Big East, Miami av-

eraged just 2,545 fans at home. Sunday's crowd of 6,067 was modest by ACC standards, but evidence that switching leagues might be good for Hurricanes hoops.

A home game against Duke on Jan. 19 also is sold out.

And the Hurricanes have defied predictions that they'll serve as a conference doormat.

Their second-half rally fell short in a loss last week at then-No. 9 Georgia Tech. But Miami overcame an early 12-point deficit to beat North Carolina State in a thriller that wasn't decided until the final shot.

"We played like a poised team with a lot of savvy down the stretch," first-year coach Frank Haith said. "You've got to play like that night in and night out in this league."

The Hurricanes are 10-3, a big improvement from last season, when they finished 14-16. Victories include non-conference wins over Florida and Massachusetts.

"I think a lot of teams underestimate us," center Anthony King said. "We're two games into the ACC now, and a lot of them are trying to see what we're really made of.



Miami guard Guillermo Diaz (13) hits a three-pointer over N.C. State guard Engin Atsur. He scored 26 in the Hurricanes' victory on Sunday and 27 in a loss to Georgia Tech.

We're showing them we're not going to finish in the bottom of the ACC."

The Hurricanes have long been regarded as a sleeping giant unable to take advantage of their state's fertile prep talent pool.

There were occasional signs of life, such as when coach Leonard Hamilton led

as when coach Leonard Hamilton led Miami to three consecutive NCAA tournament berths, including the round of 16 in



First-year Miami head coach Frank Haith has his team prepared to play "against the hest baskethall teams in the country."

But Miami Arena was rarely more than half full when the Hurricanes played there, and the opening of the convocation center in 2003 coincided with declining fortunes under coach Perry Clark.

The roster Clark left behind included considerable raw talent, and under Haith the Hurricanes are physical inside, feisty on defense and perimeter-oriented on offense. Guards Hite, Guillermo Diaz and Anthony Harris are averaging more than 12 points apiece.

"Those three guards are as good as any in the country," Florida coach Billy Donovan said.

Diaz, a sophomore and former member of the Puerto Rican junior national volleyball team, led the comeback against North Carolina State. He has scored 27 and 26 points in two ACC games. "He's athletic and explosive — a great

player," Wolfpack guard Engin Assur said.
Diaz and the Hurricanes play at Virginia
on Wednesday, then return home to face
rival Florida State on Saturday. The Seminoles know all about the lower half of the
ACC. They joined the league in 1992 and
have finished in the second division each
of the nast 10 years.

The Hurricanes are eager to do better than that.
"We're playing against the best basket-

ball teams in the country," Haith said. "If you're a player, that's a lifelong dream."

Leinart sounds like he's far from deciding his future

BY KEN PETERS

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Take a job

and become an instant multimillionaire or stay in school and collect \$895 a month for another year.

To Matt Leinart, that's a dilem-

ma.
"It's tough when you have so

may people telling you, "The money's there, take it." Then your friends and other people say, "But the money could be there in a year, what's another 10 months?" USC's Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback said Tuesday.

The NFL deadline for college underclassmen to declare for the draft is Saturday, but Leinart said he expects to announce Thursday whether he'll return for his senior season.

He said Tuesday that he's still on the fence, and may not decide until the last minute — or beyond. Asked what he'll be doing leading up to his announcement, Leinart shook his head and said, "A lot of praying. I'm going to go with what my gut tells me and what I feel at the time. Who knows, I might be one way when I'm going in to announce, and when I'm up there, I'll change."

After leading the Trojans to consecutive national titles, Leinart is fully aware of the risks of playing another year for them. An injury or a less successful season could drop him in the NFL Draft and cost him millions of dollars.

Two outstanding junior quarterbacks, Aaron Rodgers of California and Alex Smith of Utah, already have declared for this year's draft.

Leinart doesn't seem eager to end his college days.

"It is a business, and I don't know if I'm ready for that," he said of the NFL "College, it's fun. We get stipend checks, that's our money, live with our friends, just hang out and have fun. College is the best time of your life, and I think the situation I'm in, it really couldn't get any better being here." The \$895 monthly stipend for athletes is supposed to cover everything but their training table meals.

Although Leinart believes he's accomplished about everything he can as college quarterback there's one team goal remaining that may factor in his decision. The Trojans could become the first team to win three consecutive national titles.

"Sometimes my heart's like, come back. This is just so great here, and a chance to do something no team has ever done before," he said. "I look at it as a win-win situation for me. If I leave, I'm fulfilling my dream to play in the NFL, to get a shot and try to do that.

"Or I stay in school and be here with something that's real special that's going on, the start of a dynasty. I know that's kind of a bold statement, but it's just obvious what we're doing here and what coach [Pete] Carroll is doing. I'm pretty sure coach Carroll plano on staying around to be a part of

annough there has been spectral lation that an NFL team might try to lure Carroll back to the league, he said recently that he's not interested in leaving USC.

Trojans linebacker Lofa Tatupu and punter Tom Malone also are expected to announce Thursday whether they will leave school early.

Even if Leinart and those two do turn pro, USC still should be loaded next season since most of the starters return. Waiting in the wings is quarterback John David Booty, a third-year sophomore from Louisiana who is considered a better prospect than Leinart was when he took over for 2002 Heisman winner Carson Palmer.

And the Trojans already have a verbal commitment from one of the top high school quarterbacks, Mark Sanchez from Mission Viejo, Calif.

Leinart has received advice from, among many others, Palmer and Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger.

After winning the Heisman in

his senior season, Palmer was taken by the Cincinnati Bengals with the No. 1 pick in the 2003 draft.

Roethlisberger, the 2004 NFL
Offensive Rookie of the Year, left
Miami (Ohio) after his junior
year and was taken by the Steelers with the 11th pick last spring.
He received a \$9 million bonus
and earned some \$2.9 million in
salary and performance money.

"It almost seems like an easy decision to people outside of USC. Why stay when you can be a top pick? But it's really a lot harder than it seems to make the decision. There are so many pros and const to both decisions," said Leinart, who began classes on Monday and could complete requirements for his sociology degree this semester.

"Whatever I do, I'm going to be happy with my decision and move on from there"

He threw for 3,322 yards and 33 touchdowns this season, capping it in grand fashion with an Orange Bowl record five touchdown passes in the Trojans' 55-19 victory over Oklahoma.

Pointed exchange of words between Jets and Steelers

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. - Silly as it might seem in the playoffs. when motivation and emotion re quire no additional external fueling. Steelers linebacker James Farrior and several New York Jets players, namely defensive end Shaun Ellis, exchanged relatively charged words this week over ... words.

It all goes back to some visiting nostgame proclamations when the Steelers and Jets confronted one another Dec. 12 at Heinz Field

In the aftermath of that 17-6 Steelers triumph, an array of Jets from Curtis Martin on down talked for public consumption about how they hoped to return to the same venue, to face the same team, in the postseason,

Ellis went a step further, vow-ing that night: "If we come back again, we'll beat them. I honestly believe that with all my might."

This from a muscular, 6-foot-5. 285-pound fellow nicknamed "Big Katt" with 41 career sacks, including 11/2 of his team-high 11



6:30 a.m. Sunday: AFN-Pacific/Korea, Atlantic, AFN radio Okinawa, Korea e time is Japan and Korea Standard

Guam is one hour ahead; Singar Hong Kong are one hour behind

this season in last month's game at Heinz Field.

"Yeah, we noticed it," Farrior, Jets linebacker between 1997-2001, said on a telephone conference call Tuesday. "We were surprised he said that. We just looked at it and laughed at it, and they got what they wished for" — a rematch.

To which Ellis responded barely seconds later, when informed by media members about Farrior's comments: "The statement that I made, I'm a man, I put my name on it. I'll stick by it

would folks expect from a professional, competitive athlete after a

"I'm not going to say they're going to heat us the next time. continued. "I'd be a damn fool to say that. I still believe that (the Jets will win). It was just the way I truly felt in my heart. Here it is we got another chance against

To be sure, the Jets still feel an extra sting from that defeat. They were whistled for 12 penalties in the first half, a season high for a team that committed the fewest in the AFC this season and the least amount in the NFL combined over the past four years

under coach Herman Edwards. League officials, in their postgame report the following week, admitted that Walt Anderson's crew muffed a few calls - two of which came in one second-quarter series, wiping out 59 yards in Jets gains, and another that nullified a Hines Ward fumble

Worse for this bunch, they held rookie quarterback Ben Roethlisberger to the worst day of his



Despite seeing his team outgained 296-262, Steelers coach Bill Cowher, above, saw his team beat the Jets 17-6 on Dec. 12 in Pittsburgh.

14-game NFL winning streak he compiled a 1.3 passer rating in the first half and tossed two interceptions - and lost to the Steelers on a day when the winning touchdown was scored on a pass from Jerome Rettis

The Jets outgained the Steelers 296-262, but quarterback Chad Pennington threw a pass that Farrior intercepted at the Steelers' 26 and a Troy Polamalu interception deep in New York territory led to a Jeff Reed field goal.

In short, the Jets remember it being a 3-3 game until the fourth quarter, whereupon the Steelers scored on Bettis' halfback pass to Jerame Tuman and his touch-

down rumble around right end nine minutes later.

The fact that the loss was the first of three in the Jets' final four regular-season games only serves to compound their agony.

"We didn't play physical enough and we didn't play smart," linebacker Eric Barton said of the Jets' defense, which allowed Roethlisberger to rally from that horrendous first half to complete four of his final five passes for 99 yards. "Penalties and coverages, we messed up a couple of times.

We felt like a lot of things were against us and we played out of character, we got a lot of penalties." Ellis said.

N.Y. clears concussed Chrebet to return

BY ANDREA ADELSON The Associated Press

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. - Wavne Chrebet wanted so badly to play against the San Diego Chargers last week

Even though he sustained a mild concussion in the regular-season finale against St. Louis, Chrebet prepared as though he would play

He got on the airplane to Cali-fornia thinking he would play. Then came the bad news: Jets coach Herman Edwards decided against it

Chrebet begged Edwards to play, but to no avail. He would sit out because Santana Moss had a tweaked hamstring, and Edwards did not want to risk losing both

his receivers in the same game.
"I had a long talk with Wayne,"
Edwards said. "It was hard for me to do that. But at that point in time I said, 'Just hang in there. You're going to get an opportunity. We're going to play next week. So you just get well and next week we'll be able to play.

Chrebet will play Saturday against the Pittsburgh Steelers. Sitting out the wild-card game was tough on the 10-year veteran who decided to return to the team this year despite a history of con-

"It's tough." Chrebet said. "You play and go through all the offseason stuff to get to the playoffs. I



Jets receiver Wayne Chrebet sat out last week's playoff game after suffering a head injury during the regular-season finale in St. Louis.

took the plane ride. I was in game mode. I hear that the day before, it was tough to swallow. But he's the head coach he makes the calls and whatever he wants I'll do."

Chrebet has a tough decision when the season ends. He might ponder retirement after the latest concussion. Last season, he missed the final eight games with postconcussion syndrome.

He also might not be with the Jets, who need to decide whether to keep him or cut him in March. when he is set to make a \$400,000 roster bonus. Chrebet is scheduled to make \$1 million in 2005, a lot of money for a role player.

Chrebet said the latest concussion has no bearing on what he de-

"I'm not thinking about it right now," he said. "I'm just happy I get a chance to play again this week. I'm going to decide on other things once the season is over. Just want to have full focus on the task at hand and that's getting a win at Pittsburgh."

Chrebet had 31 catches for 397 yards and one TD this season.



St. Paul Pioneer Press

ST PAIII. Minn - For the second time in as many weeks, the Vikings are preparing to face a playoff opponent they played during the regular season

Unlike last Sunday's NFC wild-card game against the Green Bay Packers, though, it's uncertain just how much of an advantage - if any - that experience might be.

When the Vikings played at Philadelphia on Sept. 20, star wide receiver Terrell Owens was an important part of Minnesota's defensive game planning, and he had a big hand in the Eagles 27-16 victory.

With Owens sidelined with an ankle injury, the Eagles' offense is something of a mystery heading into Sunday's playoff game. We're trying to, as coaches, fig-

ure out what type of personality they're going to try to put on the field offensively without Owens Vikings coach Mike Tice said, "Of course, they have the great playmaker at running back (Brian Westbrook) and a great tight end (Chad Lewis)

"We've got to do the best job we can as coaches to put a plan together that takes away the personality they're going to have Sun-day, and we don't know exactly what that's going to be.

exactly tipped their hand. Ouarterback Donovan McNabb played just one series in a 20-7 Week 16 loss to the St. Louis

In the two games since Owens was injured, the Eagles haven't

Minnesota Philadelphia Vikings at Eagles

3 a.m. Monday: AFN-Pacific/Korea, Atlantic, AFN radio Okinawa, Korea

Game time is Japan and Korea Standard

Rams and not at all in the season-ending 38-10 loss to the Cincinnati Bengals. Already assured of home-field

advantage for the playoffs, the Eagles rested several other starters. Vikings defensive coordinator Ted Cottrell said he expects to see basically the same Philadel-phia offense on Sunday, even with Owens out.

"They still run their offense," Cottrell said. "They're not going to change. When they had Terrell, they put him in the (same) position where the receivers were last year. They've got a variety of formations and plays anyway. They plug the players in to run the of-

That might be true, but the Ea gles can't simply plug in another Owens, who caught a team-high 77 passes for 1,200 yards and 14 touchdowns in 14 games.

Philadelphia's second-leading wide receiver, Todd Pinkston, fin ished the regular season with 36 receptions for 676 vards and one touchdown, so Owens' absence figures to be huge.

ceivers, gives Westbrook more room to work," Vikings corner-back Antoine Winfield said. "Some teams double-team him. They can spread the field with him I don't know what they're going to do without him.'

Owens caught four passes for 79 yards, including a disputed 45-yard touchdown, during the regular-season victory over the Vikings. But it's not as if the Eagles have lost their only offensive weanon.

They still have McNabb, who passed for 245 yards and two touchdowns and ran for another

against the Vikings.

"He makes that offense go," Cottrell said of McNabb. "He's critical to them. He can still scramble well with the hall he's strong, and I think he's making a lot better decisions. His decision-making has improved over the years with his experience. It's not easy being a quarterback up in Philadelphia, either. Those are my hometown fans, and they're kind of tough on you if you're not performing, especially at the quarterback position. This guy's been doing a great job."

Throw in Westbrook, the team's leading rusher and second-leading receiver, and tight ends Lewis and L.J. Smith, and Cottrell said his defense has its work cut out for it.

"They have enough weapons," Cottrell said. "T.O. was a great plus for them, but they've been in the (conference) championship three years in a row, so they've got the weapons to get there.'

Holmgren says he's staying in Seattle

The Associated Press

KIRKLAND, Wash. - Mike Holmgren isn't going anywhere. Seattle's coach held a wrap-up news confer-ence Tuesday MFI

during which he rejected briefs speculation he might be fired or leave after a frustrating 9-7 regular season. The Seahawks lost last weekend's wild-card home

game to St. Louis.
"I haven't been told I'm not coming back," Holmgren said. There's also been talk in the Ray Area, where Holmgren grew up, that he might consider coach-

ing the San Francisco 49ers. "I don't want to coach anyplace else," Holmgren said. "I want to get it done here. I love our team. I love our guys. But to say it didn't cross my mind to ride off into the sunset? I'd by lying."

In 19 NFL seasons, Holmgren couldn't remember such an unusual season. After a 3.0 record that seemed to validate preseason forecasts of a Super Bowl run, an erratic turn made Holmgren question himself.

"I always said in close games I felt I could make a difference, Holmgren said. "I've had too many close games this year where I didn't make a difference. I have to start with myself."

The Seahawks have 16 players eligible for unrestricted free agency, including running back Shaun Alexander, quarterback Matt Hasselbeck and tackle Walter Jones

Niners add Nolan, Schwartz to interview list

SANTA CLARA, Calif. -San Francisco 49ers added two NFL assistant coaches to their list of candidates for their vacant head coaching position Tuesday.

San Francisco owner John York received permission to interview Baltimore defensive coordinator Mike Nolan and Tennessee defensive coordinator Jim Schwartz York, who interviewed New En-

gland's Romeo Crennel last week, met with Tennessee offensive co ordinator Mike Heimerdinger on Tuesday. He will interview New York Giants defensive coordinator Tim Lewis on Wednesday

Steelers might not reveal **RB** starter until Saturday

PITTSBURGH - Running backs Jerome Bettis and Duce Staley split time during practice Tuesday, and Steelers coach Bill Cowher might not announce a starter until Saturday.

"They're both going to play," Cowher said after the Steelers resumed practicing following a three-day layoff prior to their divisional playoff game against the New York Jets "We'll see how we are on game day." Bettis (941 yards) and Staley

(830 yards) split time during the regular season, but only after Staley injured a hamstring Oct. 31 against New England.



Seattle Seahawks coach Mike Holmgren said Tuesday, "I don't want to coach anyplace else. I want to get it done here."

Bettis, used mostly as a short-yardage back until then stepped in with six 100-yard games in as many starts before sitting out Jan. 2 at Buffalo with a

sprained ankle. Staley had four 100-yard games in a five-game stretch before he was injured. He appeared to have less acceleration and

power after returning, but Cowher was happy Tuesday. "He looked good today," the coach said

Pennington misses practice with stomach virus

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. - Jets quarterback Chad Pennington missed practice Wednesday with a stomach virus but coach Herman Edwards said his franchise player will be ready for Saturday's playoff game at Pittsburgh. Pennington called Edwards on

Tuesday night to say he was sick. He came to Jets headquarters Wednesday and tried to practice. but Edwards sent him inside to rest. To make matters worse for New York, backup Quincy Carter went home to Georgia to be with his ailing mother, so No. 3 quarterback Brooks Bollinger took the snans with the first-team offense during practice

Edwards said he did not know whether Pennington would be able to practice Thursday, and does not know when Carter would return. That means Bollinger would be the backup for Saturday's game

Vikings WR Moss sits out practice, listed as probable

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. Randy Moss didn't practice with the Minnesota Vikings on Wednesday because of a sprained right ankle, but he's listed as probable for Sunday's playoff game at Philadelphia.

Also held out of practice were strong safety Corey Chavous, who is doubtful with a broken left elbow, and running back Moe Wil liams, doubtful with a sprained right ankle.

Pats DE Seymour questionable

FOXBORO, Mass. - Defensive end Richard Seymour was listed Wednesday by the New England Patriots as questionable for Sunday's playoff game against the Indianapolis Colts. Seymour, a three-time Pro

Bowl defensive lineman, missed at least part of practice with a knee injury that kept him out of the final regular-season game. He is a key player in the Patriots' attempt to stop Peyton Manning, especially with their top two cornerbacks, Ty Law and Tyrone Poole, on injured reserve.

From forlorn to formidable

Falcons' front four keys one-year turnaround from one of the NFL's worst defenses to one of the best

BY PAUL NEWBERRY The Associated Pres-

FLOWERY BRANCH Ga . They've known what it means to be a laughingstock, the supposed first line of defense for a team that gave up vards at an alarming rate. No one's laughing anymore.

Bolstered by a new scheme, a key free-agent signing and better depth, the Atlanta Falcons' front four is now recognized as one of the best in the NFL.

The numbers back it up. The Falcons led the league with 48 sacks and ranked eighth against the run — a stunning turnaround for a team that surrendered a franchise-worst 6.108 vards last season

"It confirms to these guys that, 'Yeah, you are good,' "said defensive line coach Bill Johnson, who actually got a little choked up pondering how much things have changed. "They've worked so hard, come through so much, going back to when everybody thought they were the worst in the league

Patrick Kerney gets much of the notoriety, a Pro Bowl end who ranked fourth in the league with 13 sacks. But he's quick to point out that it's hardly a one show in the trenches.

Just take a look at tackle Rod Coleman, signed as a free agent after five seasons with the Oakland Raiders Even though he missed three games recovering from injuries sustained in a car wreck, Coleman managed 111/2 sacks, forced a team-high five fumbles and broke up six passes

Most telling, the Falcons had only one sack in the games Coleman missed. He's a disruptive force in the middle of the line. often tving up several blockers and freeing up plenty of space for his teammates.

"The best thing about Rod is he came here from a different system, a different philosophy, and he bought in to what we wanted to do," Kerney said. "You've got to have four guys pushing the pocket together, not four guys rushing individually."

Led by Michael Vick and a resurgent defense, the Falcons won only the third division title in franchise history. After getting a



Pro Bowl defensive end Patrick Kerney, tackling Arizona quarter back Josh Mc-Cown (12), ranked fourth in the NFI this season with 13 sacks. The Falcons led the NFL in sacks (48) and ranked second in the NFC against the run (105.1 yards per game) this season.

Friday, January 14, 2005

first-round bye, they are hosting the St. Louis Rams in an NFC playoff game Saturday night.

Kerney and Coleman are ioined along the front four by end Brady Smith, who has six sacks, three forced fumbles, two recov ered fumbles, and tackle Ed Jasper. His numbers are more modest because he missed the last four games of the regular season with a wrist injury

The changes began shortly



AFN-Pacific/Korea, Atlantic. AFN radio Okinawa, Korea

Game time is Japan and Korea Standard.

after Jim Mora was hired as coach and brought in Ed Donatell, formerly of Green Bay, as defensive coordinator.

The new staff quickly switched to the 4-3 scheme, which has definitely been a better fit for Kerney than the previous three-man front. He can rely on his speed and quickness to rush the quarterback from the outside, instead of matching up head-on with much bigger linemen.

The coaches also knew that

more depth was required. Kerney figures he took every defensive snap in at least six games a year ago, and it was about the same in 2002, as well.

"It builds up when you don't have a chance to recover." Kerney said. "It's like the energy bar on the video game. I could never

get it back to full strength. It's not that way anymore. Fifth-round pick Chad Lavalais has holstered things on the inside. After Jasper was hurt, the rookie stepped in without any drop-off.

Jasner has recovered in time for the playoffs, but Lavalais along with Antwan Lake - will be ready to provide a breather. Ditto on the outside, where former starter Travis Hall is standing by when Kerney or Smith needs a break.

Johnson, in his fourth season as the Falcons' defensive line coach. points to another factor that contributed to the improvement.

"It's not something that shows up in the statistics, but the coach sees it every day," Johnson said. "The guys really seem to care about each other, whether they're practicing, sitting in a meeting room or getting together away from the field. What makes it more amazing is their disparate backgrounds and personalities.

Kerney is a notorious free spirit from suburban Philadelphia.

Jasper is a laid-back country boy from Texas. Hall was raised in Alaska, which undoubtedly accounts for his reserved demeanor. Smith grew up near Chicago, Lavalais hails from rural Louisiana





Indianapolis running back Edgerrin James, left, fends off Denver linebacker D.J. Williams during the Colts' 49-24 victory on Sunday. The Patriots have beaten the Colts three time in the past two seasons.

hese Colts have horsepower

BY BARRY WILNER The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS Peyton Manning knows his NFL history He sees his name among the

Analysis

great quarterbacks who have league MVP honors Joe Montana Unitas

John Elway, Steve Young, Terry Bradshaw

He also knows something is missing.

Is this the year Manning gets that elusive championship ring to accompany his second straight Most Valuable Player award? Could be

In none of Manning's previous six seasons with the Colts has his team been so well-positioned to challenge for a title. The offense is performing at an almost unfathomable pace, thanks to Manning's precise passing and the superb skills of receivers Marvin Harrison, Reggie Wayne and Brandon Stokley, plus running back Edgerrin James and tight ends Marcus Pollard and Dallas Clark.

The defense, while hardly in the class of the other three remaining AFC contenders, has improved. It has enjoyed the advantage of playing from ahead because of how prolific Manning and company have been. It has two playmakers in Dwight ev and Rob Morris, and a terrific coach in Tony Dungy.

The Colts also are not a "dome team," as Dungy readily points "We don't subscribe to the in-

door-outdoor theory," Dungy says, "We have a better record on the road than at home since I've

Actually, it's the same; 17-7 at home and away.

Where they have a terrible record, however, is at New En-gland. And that's where the Colts (13-4) play Sunday, versus the dea club that often befuddles Manning with intricate defensive alignments and shifts.

Forget the weather, which hasn't necessarily been a problem for the Colts. Their failures against the Patriots, including a defeat at the RCA Dome in the 2003 season, are due to Bill Belichick's schemes that have thrown off the always-prepared Manning.

But this edition of the Colts seems to possess a different mind-set than the team that

> The Patriots are hurting most in the secondary, a bad situation when facing Indianapolis.

claimed it could handle the Patriots in recent meetings, then failed. "Your confidence has to be that you're playing well and we're playing more consistently at the

end of the year than last year.' Dungy says "At New England," said Manning, referring to last January's AFC championship game, played like an absolute dog.

There's no question about it "We have to play great up there against a great team

So are they capable of doing so, of eliminating a team that has won all six of its playoff games with Belichick as coach and Tom Brady as quarterback?

Yes. Here's why: ■ The Patriots, even with a week off, are not completely healed.

They are hurting most in the secondary, a bad situation when facing Indianapolis. And their best lineman, Richard Seymour, has an injured knee.

■ Manning is operating on an

more weapons to choose from than ever. Wayne has become a premier receiver, not just a complement to the brilliant Harrison Stokley is a perfect slot man. Both tight ends are especially dangerous near the end zone. The offensive line gives Manning enough time to go through his progressions - and nobody reads progressions better.
"I've never left the field saying

I could have done more to be Manning says. "I don't think I do more than any quarterback should; I give it the attention it deserves

■ The officials' stronger empha sis on not allowing receivers to be mugged downfield, a direct result of last year's AFC title game, favors the Colts.

■ The Colts aren't intimidated by the Patriots.

"I don't think anybody in our building would say we can't go up there and beat them," Dungy says "Part of what we have to do is realize it is just football, even if it's the playoffs and New England.

We make the big plays, we'll win.' Few teams have made more big plays this season than the Colts



Reggie Wayne, right and Brandon Stokley combined for 254 receiving yards and two touchdowns in the Colts' 49-24 playoff victory over Denver last Sunday.

History will watch Manning, Patriots

BY TOM E. CURRAN The Providence Journal

FOXBORO, Mass. - History is straightening its tie this week and smoothing its hair in the mirror. It has an appointment Sunday in Foxboro.

History doesn't actually attend many events. Most aren't worthy of its notice. But those that will be relevant to History 5, 10, 20 years down the road get special attention. History will make sure the participants will be forever recalled as they were on that particular day even if - many years forward - those participants are gray, stooped or dead.

History shows up when a great change is going to take place so that it may be recorded. History shows up when indelible moments occur.

So history is reaching up into its closet and taking down its warm gloves and furry hat. It's going to the garage to get its hiba-

History will be tailgating outside Gillette Stadium early Sunday afternoon before the playoff game between the New England Patriots and Indianapolis Colts. History then will go inside and find a seat because it will want to record this event

The Patriots are changing. Drastically. Offensive coordinator Charlie Weis is leaving at the end of the year

Defensive coor-

this

since Bill Beli-

dinator Romeo Crennel may go, as well. The hest cornerback they ever had. Tv **New England** Law, may not be back next season, and Troy 6:30 a.m. Monday Brown the AFN-Pacific/Korea, Atlantic. player who has AFN radio Okinawa, Korea embodied what

franchise Game time is Japan and Korea Standard Guam is one hour ahead; Singapore a Hong Kong are one hour behind. has been about

chick came to town — is near the end, too. Vice president of player personnel Scott Pioli is going to be wooed by every team in the league that wants to get better fast.

The run of these Patriots is nearing its end. With Belichick, Tom Brady, Tedy Bruschi and Richard Seymour still on board, they still will be easily recognizable and they may well continue to be a league power. But Sunday's game affords this team - as it is presently constituted - a chance to make a monumental statement regarding what it has heen about

It can be the perfect bookend to the 2001 Super Bowl victory over the Rams History remembers that day when the Patriots were introduced not just to football fans, but the entire world as a team, complete with all the selflessness grit and passion that teams are supposed to have. They have everyone's attention again, only this time they will be trying to add to a legacy that began with that Super Bowl triumph.

There are many who already believe the Patriots' run ends Sun-

Commentary

That the shape they are in will make it impossible to stop Indianapolis and continue their reign as the best team in football.

History already remembers that this is the team that drew up the blueprints for long-term domination in a league that was supposed to be immune to it. And History knows that one of the main parts of the plan was to make sure that no one player is bigger than the team.

To win Sunday, the team will have to stop a one-player operation

Of course, the Colts are much more than that, and the one player - Peyton Manning - would say himself that he isn't the whole

But History won't have time for such details. History will remember Peyton Manning and the Colts. Not the Colts, quarterbacked by Peyton Manning.

Manning is the hood ornament for the league. He's the easy answer to the questions of who is the best player, the best quarterback, the guy who gets the endorsements and the commercials, the magazine covers and the individual accolades

He is said by some to be the

But it will be hard for History to see Manning in the light he's supposed to be seen in if he doesn't win a title. And if Manning doesn't do it by stepping over the Patriots, then that's no good, either. Until then, the hood ornament won't sit quite

right on the hood. To continue the ascendancy he

was baptized into, Manning has to beat New England. They are the albatross tied 'round his neck, the team against which he turns to pudding. To lose Sunday, when the Patri-

ots are battered and expected to lose ... that would be something that History could not ignore.

Manning's marching orders are to win now against a Patriots team that is rine for the picking. Win, or run the risk of having History tack that to his back for the rest of his career. Because if New England wins Sunday, Peyton Manning will have lost. Not the

Manning, History's funny like

This is not the most important game this weekend or the most important game of the playoffs. This game offers considerable historic impact.

Whether it winds up 20-17 in double overtime or 42-3, the win-- and the loser - Sunday will be remembered for many vears.

By History.



The Pacers' Jermaine O'Neal taunts the Memphis crowd after making two free throws to beat the Grizzlies.

Loss to Pistons not as bad for Nets as losing Jefferson

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. -Bad news arrived in the afternoon for Richard Jefferson and the New Jersey Nets, and bad basketball naturally followed.

Hours after they learned they'd be without Jefferson for the remainder of the season, the Nets sorely missed his offense in an 89-80 loss to the Detroit Pistons on Tuesday night.

Jefferson needs surgery to repair a torn ligament in his left wrist, meaning the Nets will have to make do without their leading scorer and rebounder just 31/2 weeks after acquiring a third star. Vince Carter

"It's tough, we were just talking about it [Monday] and he wasn't sure what the doctors were going to say," Carter said.

Rasheed Wallace had 19 points and 13 rebounds, and Richard Hamilton scored 18 points for the Pistons as they extended their road winning streak to six games on the one-month anniversary of their last loss away from home.

Jefferson, dressed in all black watched from the bench as the Nets got 19 points from Carter, 16 from Travis Best and 13 from Jason Kidd while losing for the fourth time in five games

Jefferson originally injured the wrist when he was flagrantly fouled last month by Detroit's Chauncey Billups on a break-

Jefferson said he doesn't consider Billups a dirty player, but he thought the foul constituted a dirty play.

"I have been in this league for a while and you all can check my record. I know I don't have more than one or two flagrants," Billups said. "Everybody knows I don't play like that. There is no reason to make a play like that, with malicious intent.



Jefferson had been in a mini-slump ever since being on the receiving end of Billups' dercut foul, and an MRI revealed the torn ligament. Jefferson will wear a cast for two months after undergoing surgery, and he said he hoped to return for the playoffs - if the Nets qualify.

That'll be a much more daunting task now that the team leader in scoring (22.2) and rebounds (7.3) is out. The loss solidified the Nets' spot at the bottom of the At-

Cavaliers 100, Bobcats 98 (OT): At Cleveland, Drew Gooden scored nine of the Cavaliers' final 15 points, including seven in overtime

LeBron James, who had 29 points, helped the Cavaliers rally from a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter for its fourth straight victory

Brevin Knight tied a career high with 20 assists for the Bobcats, who lost for the eighth time in nine games.

On Wednesday, the Cavaliers learned rookie guard Luke Jackson will have back surgery Thursday and miss the rest of the season

Jackson, the 10th overall pick in last year's NBA Draft, has had back problems since the summer. but the pain worsened recently diagnosed earlier this week with a herniated disc.

Hornets 88, Knicks 82: Baron Davis had 21 points and 10 assists to give the Hornets their first winning streak of the season.

Lee Nailon had 18 points, and P.J. Brown and Dan Dickau added 17 points each for the Hornets, who ended a 15-game road

Allan Houston led the Knicks with 17 points.

Hawks 103, Bucks 80: Ty ronn Lue scored a season-high 18 points to lead seven players in double figures as the Hawks snapped a six-game losing streak.

The Bucks were without starting center Dan Gadzuric for most of the game. He played only six minutes before he was taken to an Atlanta hospital, complaining of stomach pain.

Pacers 86. Grizzlies 85: Jermaine O'Neal capped a 35-point night by making two free throws with 4.6 seconds left to snan the Grizzlies' six-game

O'Neal, who was 12-for-23 from the field, grabbed 12 rebounds to give Indiana its only victory in a

four-game road trip Pau Gasol had 31 points and four blocks for Memphis, and Bonzi Wells added 20 points.

Kings 109. Nuggets 100: Peja Stojakovic scored 27 points, Mike Bibby added 18 and the short-handed Kings extended the Nuggets' losing streak in Sacramento to 17 games

Rookie Kevin Martin scored 11 of his career-high 17 points in the second quarter for the Kings, who

dressed just nine players. Chris Webber sat out with a sore left knee, and the Kings also were without new acquisitions Cuttino Mobley and Michael Bradley following Monday's trade with Orlando for Doug Christie.

SuperSonics 104, Clippers 99: At Seattle, Ray Allen scored 31 points and Vladimir Radmanovic had nine of his 18 points in the fourth quarter for the Su perSonics

Corey Maggette led the Clippers with 20 points. Elton Brand added 17 points and 11 rebounds.

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB								
New York	17	18	.486	_								
Boston	16	19	.457	1								
Philadelphia	15	18	.455	1								
Toronto Toronto	13	22	.371	4								
New Jersey	12	22	.353	41/2								
Southeast Division												
Miami	27	10	.730	-								
Washington	19	13	.594	51/2								
Orlando	18	15	.545	7								
Charlotte	8	23	.258	16								
Atlanta		26	.188	181/2								
Central Di	visio	n										
Cleveland	21	12	.636	-								
Detroit	19	14	.576	2								
Indiana	17	16	.515	4								
Chicago	14	18	.438	61/2								
Milwaukee	12	20	.375	81/2								

Meatern contenence												
Southwest Division												
W L Pct GB												
San Antonio	28	8	.778	-								
Dallas	22	10	.688	4								
Memphis	18	18	.500	10								
Houston	17	17		10								
New Orleans	4	29	.121	221/2								
Northwest Division												
Seattle	25	8	.758	-								
Minnesota	17	16	.515	8								
Portland	15	18	.455	10								
Denver		20										
Utah		24	.333	141/2								
Pacific Div	/isio	n										
Phoenix	31	- 4	.886	-								
Sacramento	22		.667	8								
L.A. Lakers	18	14	.563	111/2								
L.A. Clippers	16	17	.485	14								
Golden State		24	.314	20								
Tuesday's	gan	nes										
Cleveland 100, Charlotte 98, OT												

Cleveland 100, Charlotte 98, OT Atlanta 103, Milwauke 80 Detroit 89, New Jersey 80 New Orleans 88, New York 82 Indiana 86, Memphis 85 Phoenix 122, Miami 107 Sacramento 109, Denver 100 Seattle 104, L.A. Clippers 99 Wednesday's games

New Orleans at Detroit Orlando at Minnesota Philadelphia at Chicago Milwaukee at San Anton Phoenix at Utah L.A. Lakers at Denver L.A. Lakers at Denver
Houston at Dallas
Miami at Golden State
Seattle at L.A. Clippers
Thursday's games
New Jersey at Houston

Utah at Sacramento Cleveland at L.A. Lakers Friday's ga Phoenix at Indiana Toronto at Philadelphia

Toronto at Philadelphia Memphis at Charlotte Atlanta at Boston ballas at San Antonio Orlando at Detroit Portland at New Orleans Washington at Milwauk Miami at L.A. Clippers Minnesota at Denver Golden State at Seattle

Tuesday Cavaliers 100, Bobcats 98 (OT)

CHARLOTTE — Wallace 8-15 2-3 18, Okafor 9 0-0 6, Brezec 9-15 0-0 18, Knight 4-9 7-7 15, 3-9 0-0.5 Brezec 9-15-0-0.18, Knight 4-9-7.715, Rush 2-6-0.4, Sognar 5-16-12-17, Kapono 4-9-0-0-11, White 0-0-0-0. Ely 3-5-1:3-7, Hart 1-10-0.2, Sampson 0-2-0-0. Bobinson 0-0-0 0. Totals 41-87 11-15-98. CLEVELAND - James 11-24-5-7-29, Gooden 8-13-1-2-17, Iligauskas 6-11 10-10-22, McInnis 4-15-0-0.8, Newble 1-5-0-0.2, Snow 3-5-0-1-7, Harris 2-4-0-1-4, Varejan 2-4-0-0-4, Traylor 1-4 0-2, Pavloviel 1-4-3-4.5, Totals 3-38-9 19-2-5

Hawks 103, Bucks 80

MILWAUKEE — Mason 6-14 1-2 13, J.Smith 2-4 0-0 4, Gadzuric 1-1 0-0 2, M.Williams 4-11 0-0 8, Redd 5-17 0-0 10, Pachulia 3-9 2-2 8, Van Horn 4-8 0-9 10, James 6-10 1-2 14, Fizer 3-9 0-0 6, Santiago 1-1 1-2 3, Kukoc 0-0 0-0 0, Strickland 1-3 0-0 2, Totals 3-6-7 5-8 0. ATLANTA — Harrington 7-12 0-2 14, Walker 1-13 1-2 10, Collier 5-9 2-2 12, Lue 8-14 1-2 18, 10s.Smith 5-5 1-2 11, Drobnjak 6-11 0-0 13, vey 3-3 3-3 9, Childress 4-7 4-4 12, D.Smith 1-3 2-2 4, Ekezie 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 43-78 14-19

03. Milwaukee 16 21 16 27 – 80 Atlanta 29 26 26 22 – 103 Three-Point Goals-Milwaukee 3-10 (Van forn 2-3, James 1-3, M.Williams 0-1, Redd -3), Atlanta 3-8 (Drobnjak 1-1, Walker 1-3, 0-3), Atlanta 3-8 (Drobnjak 1-1, Walker 1-3, Lue 1-3, Harrington 0-1), Fouled out—Santia-go, Rebounds—Milwaukee 41 (Pachulia 8), Atlanta 53 (Walker 11), Assists—Milwaukee 22 (M.Williams 7), Atlanta 24 (Lue 9). Total fouls—Milwaukee 17, Atlanta 23, A—11,280

Pistons 89, Nets 80

DETROIT – Prince 3-9 1-27, R.Wallace 8-2-2 19, B.Wallace 5-10 1-2 11, Hamilton 3-12-14 18, Billups 2-7 6-6 11, Dupree 1-2 0-0 McDyess 5-9 1-2 11, Hunter 5-8 0-0 10. Tota 32-71 23-28 89.

ree-Point Goals—Detroit 2-9 (Billups 1-3 allace 1-3, Hunter 0-1, Hamilton 0-2) / Jersey 4-14 (Best 2-5, Kidd 2-6, Carte New Jersey 4-14 (Jest 2-5, Natu 2-6, Carlo 3-6, Fold out—None. Rebounds—Detroit 53 (R.Wallace 13), New Jersey 47 (Collins 10). Assists—Detroit 12 (Hamilton 7), New Jersey 15 (Kidd 7). Total fouls—Detroit 15, New Jersey 22. Technicals—R.Wallace, New Jersey Defensive Three Second 2. A—15,755

Hornets 88, Knicks 82

NEW ORLEANS — Nailon 8-14 2-2 18, Rogers 9 0-0 6, Brown 6-11 5-6 17, Davis 5-16 10-13 NEW ORLEANS — Nation 6-14 2-2 18, Rogers 3-9 0-0 6, Brown 6-11 5-6 17, Davis 5-16 10-13 21, Smith 3-8 0-0 7, Dickau 5-6 4-4 17, Nachbar 1-4 0-0 2, Andersen 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 31-70

21-25 88. NEW YORK — K.Thomas 7-14 1-2 15, J.Williams 5-7 2-5 12, Mohammed 3-8 1-2 7, Houston 6-20 4-4 17, Marbury 5-15 5-6 15, Ariza 3-7 2-2 8, Norris 4-6 0-8 Totals 33-77 15-21 82. New Orleans 26 28 16 18—88 New York 22 25 14 21—82 New York
Three-Point Goals—New Orleans 5-16
(Dickau 3-3, Smith 1-2, Davis 1-7, Nachbar
1-1, Rogers 0-3, New York 1-11 (Houston 1-8,
Marbury 0-3), Fouled out—None. ReboundSelew Orleans 46 (Grown 12), New York 15
(Davis 10), New York 18 (Marbury 13), Total
Gould Selew Orleans 20, New York 19, Technical—New York Defensive Three Second.
A-17.631 (19,736)

Pacers 86, Grizzlies 85

INDIANA — J.Jones 0-3 0-0 0, 0°Neal 12-23 11-11 35, Foster 3-8 2-3 8, Tinsley 7-17 4-4 19, R.Miller 4-7 0-0 10, Curry 1-3 0-0 2, Croshere 2-7 4-5 8, Harrison 0-1 0-0, F.Jones 1-3 0-0 2, Johnson 0-1 2-2 2, Totals 30-73 23-25 85. Johnson 0-1 2-2 2. Totals 30-73 23-25 86. **MEMPHIS** — Battler 3-5 1-2 7, Gasol 12-19 6-1231, LWright 3-8 0-0, Williams 3-6 3-3 11, M.Miller 0-1 2-2 2, Wells 7-12 4-5 20, Watson 1-4-0-2 0, Jones 1-4 1-3 3, Swift 1-4 1-2 3. To-tals 31-63 18-29 85.

seemphis 22 26 11 25—96
Three-Point Grabe—Indiana 31 (3 Miller
Three-Point Grabe—Indiana 31 (3 Miller
Three-Point Grabe—Indiana 31 (3 Miller
Three 2-2), Memphis 5-13 (Wells 2-3, Williams
Te 0-2), Memphis 5-13 (Wells 2-3, Williams
Te 0-2), Memphis 5-13 (Wells 2-3, Williams
Te 0-2), Touled out.—None, ReboundTouled Te 0-1, Touled out.—None, ReboundTouled Te 0-1, Wells 1-3, Williams
Te 0-1, Williams
Te 0-1, Touled Te 0-1, Touled
Te 0-1, Wells 1-3, Williams
Te 0-1, Williams
Te 0-1, Touled
Te 0-1, Williams
Te 0-1, Touled
Te 0-1, Williams
Te 0-1, W (LWright 9). Assists—Indiana 12, Mem (LWright 9). Assists—Indiana 16 (Tin Memphis 19 (Williams 5). Total fouls-ina 25, Memphis 21. Technicals—Ind ach Carlisle, Memphis Defensive Ti cond. A—16,171 (18,119).

Suns 122, Heat 107

40 27 33 22-122

Inree-Point Goals—Mami 5-13 (Butler 3-4, EJones 2-6, Anderson 0-1, D.Jones 0-2), Phoe-nis 9-29 (Johnson 4-8, Richardson 3-12, Jacob-sen 1-2, Marion 1-3, Nash 0-4), Fouled out--None, Rebounds—Mami 49 (ONeal 11), Phoenix 33 (Marion 11), Assists—Malami 26 (Wade 8), Phoenix 27 (Nash 16). Total fouls—Malami 23, Phoenix 19. A–18,422 (18,422).

Kings 109, Nuggets 100

DBVER - Anthony 4:14 8-11 16, KenMar-tin 7-13 5-17, Camby 7-44 8, DJohnson 1-3 0-3, AMIller 8-12 0-7 16, Buchen 6-8 1-1 14, Nene No. 12 0-16, No. 12 0-16,

nez 2,20 S. Totals 3/19 July 2018
Sacrambor 27 St 13 30–100
Sacrambor 27 St 13 30–100
Sacrambor 2018–2017 St 22 July 20
Sacrambor 2018–2019 St 20
Sacrambor 2018–2019 St 20
Sacrambor 2018–2019 St 20
Sacrambor 2018–2019 St 20
Sacrambor 2018–2019
Sacrambor 2018–2019
Sacrambor 2018–2019
Sacrambor 2018–2019
Sacrambor 2018
Sa

Sonics 104, Clippers 99

LA. CLIPPERS — Brand 6-14 5-7 17, Sim-nons 4-11 6-7 14, Kaman 5-9 0-0 10, Brunson 1-16 0-0 15, Maggette 6-15 7-9 20, Moore 4-4 3-10, Ross 0-20-0 0, Kittles 3-8 2-2 9, Rebra-a 2-3 0-1 4, Martin 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 36-82

2-29 99.
SEATTLE - Evans 2-4 1-3 5, Lewis 4-10 0-0, James 2-3 0-0 4, Allien 9-20 8-8 31, Ridnour 11 0-0 6, Radmanovic 7-13 2-2 18, Daniels 8-13-10, Fortson 1-4 9-9 11, Collisson 2-2 3-3, Murray 1-5 0-0 3, Totals 35-80 24-27 10.
LA. Clippers 27 23 26 23-99
Seattle 31 20 23 30-104

Drawn-out baseball deals finally finished

The Associated Pres-

NEW VORK Johnson, Carlos Beltran, Shawn Green, Derek Lowe, Vazquez and Juan Gonzalez finally got to their new teams following weeks of negotiations.

Dioner Navarro, a 20-year-old catcher with seven major league at-bats, even got traded twice

Tuesday. On a day when the Mets and Yankees combined for a news conference doubleheader, baseball dominated the New York sports scene, even with the Jets getting ready for their second-round matchup with Pittsburgh in the NFL playoffs.

In the morning at Shea Stadithe Mets announced their \$119 million, seven-year contract with center fielder Carlos Beltran, the 10th deal in baseball history worth \$100 million or more The new-look Mets have added three-time Cy Young Award winner Pedro Martinez and might try to sign Carlos Delgado.

"I call it the new Mets because this organization is going to a dif-ferent direction, the right direction, the direction of winning,"

Beltran said. Three hours later, the Yankees introduced Johnson, a five-time Cv Young Award winner, after acquiring him from Arizona for Vazquez, Navarro, pitcher Brad Halsey and \$9 million. The Big Unit, who got a \$32 million, two-year contract extension through 2007, quickly apologized for getting into a sidewalk confrontation with a television cameraman en route to his physical the previous day.

was unprofessional and, obviously. I feel very foolish today. at such a great moment in my career, that I would have to sit before all of you, or stand before all you, and apologize for my ac-tions," he said.

Arizona then dealt Navarro and right-handers William Juarez, Danny Muegge and Beltran Perez to Los Angeles for Green and \$10 million.



Outfielder Shawn Green, who has a .314 batting average and .629 slugging percentage at Bank One Ballpark, signed a \$32 million. three-year contract with the Arizo-

na Diamondbacks "We had said for some time if

were to make a decision to trade Randy Johnson, which was a difficult decision to be sure, that we wanted to obtain good starting pitching and another front-line player as a minimum," Diamondbacks managing partner Ken Ken-drick said. "We think we achieved our goal with Javy and with Shawn.

Green got a \$32 million, three-year contract from the Diamondbacks. He has a .314 average and .629 slugging percentage at Bank One Ballpark with 14 homers and 40 RBIs in 175 according to the Elias at-hats Sports Bureau.

"I couldn't be happier with the change for me," Green said.
"The team that I was really hoping would work out is Arizona. It's my favorite park to play in and it's my favorite city to come to. It was a perfect fit for me and for my family

The Diamondbacks also signed

million, one-year contract and traded Shea Hillenbrand to the Toronto Blue Jays on Wednesday for nitcher Adam Peterson in a payroll-cutting move.

Estes turned down a two-year offer for more money from the Washington Nationals. He and his wife Heather - and their sons 16-month-old Jackson 3-month-old Cody - live in Paradise Valley, about a 20-minute drive to Bank One Ballpark.

Estes, 31, was 15-8 with a 5.84 ERA in a career-high 34 starts for the Colorado Rockies last season. Despite pitching in hitter-friendly Coors Field, Estes' victories were second to Johnson among left-handers in the National

It was a comeback season for Estes, who found himself with few job offers after going 8-11 with a 5.74 ERA with the Chicago Cubs in 2003

Most significantly to the Dia-mondbacks front office, Estes was 8-1 with a 3.73 ERA in 16 starts against NL West opponents. He led the National League in inducing double plays and was second in the NL in pickoffs with five.

After shedding Green, Los Angeles finalized its \$36 million, four-year contract with right-hander Derek Lowe, the winner for Boston in the final game of all three of its postseason series as the Red Sox won their first World Series in 86 years.

Derek is a front-line starter with a history of success in the regular season and in the postseason," Dodgers General Manager Paul DePodesta said.

Gonzalez, a two-time AL MVP with Texas, finalized a minor league contract with Cleveland. 35-year-old outfielder has 434 homers but played in just 33 games last year with Kansas City, batting .276 with five homers and

If Gonzalez makes the Indians 25-man roster, he would get a \$600,000, one-year contract and have a chance to earn another \$1.65 million in bonuses based on plate appearances and \$300,000 based on time on the active roster. "Should be come into camp

healthy and in good form. I fully expect him to make our club and be a starting outfielder," Indians general manager Mark Shapiro

Toronto agreed to a \$5.2 million, two-year contract with left-hander Scott Schoeneweis. let go by the Chicago White Sox last month, Philadelphia agreed to a \$500,000, one-year contract with right-hander Terry Adams and Baltimore agreed to a minor league deal with right-hander James Baldwin

Among players eligible for salary arbitration, Houston agreed to a \$1.3 million, one-year deal with infielder Mike Lamb. And in addition to the Beltran deal, the Mets agreed to a \$3.7 million, five-year contract with right-hander Philip Humber, the third overall pick in last June's amateur draft.

Elsewhere, third baseman Tony Batista's \$15 million. two-year contract was completed by Fukouka in Japan's Pacific League. The team also agreed to a two-year deal with infielder Jol-bert Cabrera.

Reliever Dan Miceli agreed to a one-year deal with the Yomiuri Giants of the Central League worth about \$2 million.

On Wednesday:

Catcher Paul Lo Duca agreed to an \$18 million, three-year contract with the Florida Marlins, who acquired the two-time All-Star catcher in a trade with the Los Angeles Dodgers last sum-

When Jeffrey Loria said publicly not too long after we acquired Paul that he was not a sum mer rental, he meant it," said Marlins General Manager Larry Beinfest, referring to the team's

Lo Duca, a fan favorite in Los Angeles, was shocked and teary-eyed when the trade was announced last July. But he soon be came enamored with catching the Marlins' crop of young, talented starters - Josh Beckett, A.J. Burnett, Dontrelle Willis - and decided Florida was the right place for him. They are joined by veterans Al Leiter — who threw a no-hitter in 1996 — and Ismael Valdez.

"It is a lot of fun catching these guys," said Lo Duca, who avoided salary arbitration by accepting the deal. "You have four guys who can throw a no-hitter at any time. That makes it interesting.

Lo Duca, who turns 32 on April 12. hit .258 with three home runs and 31 RBIs in 53 games last season with the Marlins. He's a career .285 hitter, with 60 home runs, 306 RBIs and 133 doubles in

■ Infielders Wilton Guerrero and Abraham Nunez were among eight players who agreed to minor league contracts with the St. Louis Cardinals.

Pitchers Chris Gissell, Bob File and Toby Borland also agreed to deals along with first baseman Mike Bell, and outfielders Raul

Gonzalez and Brandon Berger. Guerrero, 30, hit .231 in 26 at-bats with Kansas City last season and .326 at Triple-A Omaha. He is a career .282 hitter in 672 major league games and is the brother of American League MVP Vladimir Guerrero

Nunez, 28, hit .245 in 97 games with Pittsburgh last year.

Bell, 30, is the son of former player and manager Buddy Bell and brother of David Bell of the Philadelphia Phillies He hit 25 homers at Triple-A Charlotte last

The Oakland Athletics agreed to a one-year contract with Keiichi Yabu after the right-hander passed a physical. The 36-year-old has played 11 seasons with the Hanshin Tigers in Japan. He went 6-9 with a 3.02 ERA in 19 games last season and had an 84-106 record and 3.57 ERA with the team.

He could compete for a spot in Oakland's starting rotation.



Suns forward Amare Stoudemire, left, shoots over Heat forward Udonis Haslem, right, in the fourth quarter. Stoudemire scored 34 points.

Suns: Stoudemire a young Shaq

"We've obviously struggled with the top teams in the West, and that's something that I think should stick in our mind every day," Van Gundy said. "And any time we have any tendency to get complacent, that should be what pushes us and drives us to improve over the last 14 weeks of the season. We have to get a lot better to get to where we want to go. You can't argue the facts on that."

Stoudemire relished his matchun with O'Neal his boyhood idol

"I did a little bit of everything," Stoudemire said "I tried to mix it up on him, and use my jumper. I figured he was going to back up a little bit and let me shoot, and when he came out. I took it to the rack and tried to get fouls or make plays for my team-

O'Neal has always liked Stoudemire.

"Tonight it was the old me versus the young me." O'Neal said. "I wanted to make him shoot the jumper, and he shot it, and he shot it real well. He's a great kid."

Despite Miami's attempts to slow the tempo, the Suns raced to their highest-scoring first quarter of the season, taking a 40-25 lead. Miami never was closer than 10 again.

"We talked about it. Every first quarter, they

jump on people." Van Gundy said. "We got our selves in a big hole, and we tried a couple times to fight back, but we just could never get enough stops to ever make it a game."

"I'm disappointed that we didn't come out and do the things that we talked about." Heat forward Udo-

Stoudemire made all four of his first-quarter shots

each one from beyond 15 feet.

O'Neal scored 17 in the first half on 8-for-9 shoot-

ing, five of them dunks, O'Neal and Stoudemire are first and second in the NBA in dunks. The Heat were down 71-61 on Wade's basket early in the second half, but the Suns went on one of their trademark runs, this one 18-4, to go up 89-65 on Stoudemire's soaring dunk with 6:40 left in the

In the fourth quarter, Stoudemire was knocked down by O'Neal, but flipped the ball in sidearmed as he fell. He made the free throw for a three-point

play to put Phoenix up 105-85 with 9:46 left. O'Neal's basket cut it to 106-89, but Marion re sponded with a baseline jumper, then Johnson made

his fourth three-pointer of the game, and third of the half, and it was 111-91 with 7:24 remaining. "They shot the ball very well, and we made too many mistakes." O'Neal said. "Every time we'd al-

most get back in it, we'd have a turnover and they'd go down and make a three."

SPORTS



Nets get bad news on Jefferson. then play poorly in loss to Pistons, Page 30

Suns in different league



Oklahoma State's defense helps coach Sutton earn 767th victory Page 25







Falcons' front four at the center of turnaround Page 28

Phoenix Suns forward Amare Stoudemire, right, slaps the ball out of the grasp of Miami Heat center Shaquille O'Neal, left, in the third quarter Tuesday in Phoenix. Both players lead their respective teams with 34 points as the Suns defeated the Heat 122-107.

West's best team coasts past East-leading Heat

BY BOB BAUM

The Associated Press

PHOENIX - The ever-energized Phoenix Suns made the best in the East look slow and overmatched — just like they've done to almost every opponent so far in a remarkable season

Amare Stoudemire scored 34 points, and the Suns won their seventh straight 122-107 over the Miami Heat on Tuesday night in what turned out to be a mismatch of the teams with the best records in the West and East.

All five Suns starters hit double figures in the first half — and Phoenix improved to 31-4, the sixth-best start for a team with four losses in league history. Four of the five teams ahead of the Suns went on to win the NBA

Miami coach Stan Van Gundy said he knew what the Suns would do, but he couldn't stop them from doing it.

"We got absolutely dominated from the get-go," he said. "Look, that's a great team. I'm a little humbled by the fact that we could not come up with any kind of plan to stop them from a coaching standpoint

West if best

The Miami Heat have the best record in the NBA's Eastern Conference at 27-10, but they have a 7-8



Nov. 11 – lost to Dallas, 113-93 Nov. 12 – lost at San Antonio, 93-84 Nov. 16 – lost at Minnesota, 108-97 Dec. 23 – won at Sacramento, 109-107 Jan. 3 – lost to Seattle, 98-96 Jan. 9 – lost at Seattle, 108-98 Jan. 11 – lost at Phoenix, 122-107

Shawn Marion added 26 points and 11 rebounds, Steve Nash 16 points and 16 assists and Joe Johnson 24 points and nine rebounds

for the Suns, who have won 18 of 19 "Just right now it's fitting all together," Phoenix coach Mike D'Antoni said. "He [Nash] makes it look easy, and the other guys make it look easy. They play off each other. This is probably our best stretch we've had all

lead in the first quarter, never let Miami closer than 10 and topped 120 points for the second game in a row and seventh time this sea-

"I don't know that I've seen a quicker team in my 10 years in the league," Van Gundy said. "They've got great athletes at every posi-tion."

"They're a very unselfish team." Miami's Eddie Jones said. "And they push it right at you, right down your throat.

Despite his team's eye-popping record, D'Antoni won't call the Suns the best team in the NBA.

"You know, San Antonio's good," he said. "They only beat us by 20 points, so it's kind of hard for me to say we're better than they are. We're good. We're playing real well, and we're going to get better

Shaquille O'Neal had 34 points and 11 rebounds, and Dwyane Wade added 23 points, but the Heat - beaten at Seattle on Sunday lost two in a row for only the second time this season. The first was early November, when Dallas and San Antonio beat Miami in back-to-back games Nov. 11-12.

The fleet-footed Suns ran out to a 17-point SEE SUNS ON PAGE 31

son.

